

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Small is... Vickers, a giant of the past, comes to terms with a more modest future... beautiful New life for the handsome embassies that changing and violent times have left empty Brothers... Unions and management at BL get together to discuss the mole sackings. David Felton reports... in law



The Times Profile: Lord Goodman of the City of Westminster Spun... Report from Lord's and Canterbury on cricket's NatWest semi-finals... gold Books page: Byron Rogers on Bendor, the Golden Duke of Westminster

The dollar falls by 1.5 cents

The dollar fell 1.5 cents against the pound to 1.5060 as speculators abandoned the American currency. Its sharp drop against that and other currencies came after hopes of higher US interest rates receded. The 30-share index opened at a new peak of 732.2 but closed unchanged at 732.8 Page 12, 13

Man on Ulster deaths charge

Gerard Sleenson, aged 25, of Dunlwey Street, Falls Road, Belfast, was charged last night with the murder of three members of the Ulster Defence Regiment, two policemen and a member of the Territorial Army.

Nkomo home

Mr Joshua Nkomo, the opposition Zimbabwe leader, returned home from exile to a quiet welcome. He parried questions on the sensitive Matabeleland issue Page 4

Air challenge

British Airways is to challenge in the High Court a decision allowing British Midland Airways to compete with its Heathrow-Belfast shuttle service Page 2

Medical check

The British Medical Association is holding an inquiry into alternative therapies, including faith healing and herbalism. A working party will report on their values. Page 3

Sun shines on

It rained yesterday in Wales and the North of England, but the Meteorological Office dismissed the idea that the long hot summer was about to break. Heatwave boom, page 3 Forecast, back page

Murder vow

A South African appeal court has given an affidavit from the father of Mrs Maureen Smith, sentenced to die for her husband's murder, that he would have killed the man himself Page 4

Irish victory

Carrleon, the Irish challenger, ridden by Pat Eddery, won the Benson and Hedges Gold Cup at York, beating Hot Touch and John French Page 18

Leader page, 9 Letters: On World Council of Churches, from the Rev P. Oestreicher, and the Ven F. H. House; cost of motorways, from Mr R. D. Harrison

Leading articles: Privatization; Defence Features, pages 6-8 Nkomo, one-party state surrender?; Hungary, a triumph for neo-capitalism; Jack Bruce-Gardyne's candidates for spending cuts

Spectrum: Mayor Koch of New York; Wednesday: Coping with cancer; Alan Franks and the pocket money problem

Obituary, page 10 Mr Leavelle G. Carpenter, His Honour Judge Chavasse

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Steel 'will resign' if he loses right to veto manifesto

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr David Steel is expected by his close colleagues to resign the Liberal leadership if the party assembly votes next month to take away his right of veto over the contents of the general election manifesto. Mr Steel, said to be improving by the day after suffering from depression brought on by a viral infection, plans to take no part in the assembly debate on the manifesto and other proposed changes to the Liberal constitution which are seen as further challenges to his authority. He has not even decided whether to attend that debate. But Mr Steel's friends are in no doubt that he would find it impossible to carry on if the move by grassroots activists to remove his manifesto veto were successful. Daventry Liberal Association, backed by the National League of Young Liberals and a grassroots organization called Campaign 83, have tabled a motion seeking to delete from the party constitution a clause in "Section K9" which says: "The leader of the party shall have final authority over the content of the manifesto."



Mr Steel: His authority challenged.

It springs from dissatisfaction among activists over the way Mr Steel drew up the joint general election manifesto with the Social Democratic Party, and the alleged failure of the manifesto to reflect party policy on defence, local government and blood sports. They were particularly upset that it failed to make a commitment to ban deployment of cruise missiles. The Liberal assembly two years ago voted to support a ban. Mr Steel does not oppose a proposal by three MPs, Mr Cyril Smith, Mr David Alton, and Mr Simon Hughes, for the election of deputy leader.

although he is against their proposals for the election of a chief whip and a chairman of the parliamentary party, and the activists' other proposal to remove his overall control over political broadcasts. As a Liberal Party survey on the Alliance's performance in the election was published, indicating that the great majority of Liberal associations backed it and that a merger between the two parties is already effectively taking place in some constituencies, SDP activists moved yesterday to support their leader, Dr David Owen, in his opposition to early moves to a merger. Members of the Council for Social Democracy have tabled a motion for the debate at the Salford conference next month on the party's future which sets out to emphasize the separate identity of the SDP. This will be taken with another motion put forward by the former MP, Mr Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler, which effectively rules out a merger by calling for closer links between the parties "within the present party constitutions".

Mr Stuart Bayliss, one of the tablers of the former motion, said yesterday: "We believe that the so-called merger debate is a secondary one. First and foremost the SDP must publicly express its own identity so that people know what we stand for - like support of the social and welfare services, efficiency in the public sector, profitability in the private sector and partnership in industry between management and workforce." The moves reflect the opposition among SDP activists to the Liberal proposal for the joint selection of parliamentary candidates.



Off to war: French paratroopers in good heart as they board an aircraft near Nantes for Chad.

Fall of 39% in Brixton muggings

By Nicholas Timmins

Muggings in Brixton fell by 39 per cent in the first six months of this year, police said yesterday. The reduction was part of an overall decline of 20 per cent in crimes of violence reported in the Lambeth police district as a whole. Commander Alex Marnoch, head of "L" District police, said the police could only guess at the reasons for the decline in the crimes which had tended to rise steadily. But he attributed them to changes in police tactics and to greater cooperation and trust between the police and the public, and described the figures as "promising and hopeful".

Since January, he said, an extra 93 officers had been patrolling the streets in the district in line with the new strategy adopted by Sir Kenneth Newman, the commissioner for the Metropolitan Police. The CID street crime squad had been using targeting and surveillance techniques in cooperation with the intelligence unit set up at East Dulwich Police Station which had led to the arrest of "some very active robbers".

The figures show that robbery and other violent theft in Brixton - the category that covers muggings - fell from 801 in the first six months of last year to 489 in the equivalent period this year, a decline of 39 per cent. The figures show that there was some displacement of street crime to Streatham which saw a 16 per cent increase in robbery and other violent theft and a 5 per cent rise in burglaries. But Commander Marnoch said the increase in Streatham was nowhere near the decline elsewhere. "The level of crime is still far too high" he said, "but we are going in the right direction."

He said that in recent months people have been increasingly willing to come forward and help the police. They will not put up with the degree of violent crime that existed before. Older members of the community were taking a more responsible attitude, he said, contacts with young people had improved and the atmosphere around Raiton Road - Brixton's "front line" and the scene of the 1981 riots - was more relaxed.

Chad puts out peace feelers to Libya

By Our Foreign Staff

President Hissene Habre said yesterday that his Government has had contacts with Libya in search of a peaceful end to Chad's civil war, but he rejected talks with the Libyan rebel leader, Mr Goukouni Oueddei. "We have even knocked on Tripoli's door to try to find a peaceful solution," he told a press conference. He declined to elaborate and there was no indication where or at what level the contacts took place. But it was the first official reference to peace feelers towards Libya, which backs former president Goukouni and is blamed by Habre for reviving Chad's 17-year civil war.

Looking sombre and subdued, the blue-robed president said the military rebel counter-offensive was still holding in both the east and north. Direct fighting between government and rebel forces has not been reported for the past three days, but Mr Habre claimed Libyan aircraft bombed Government positions at Oum-Chalouba and Korotoro on Sunday. According to diplomatic sources the rebels hold both these outposts but the Government has not confirmed their loss.

A report from Lagos suggests that Mr Goukouni has been missing since the end of last month. Sources close to the Chadian opposition in the neighbouring Benin republic, said the former president disappeared at the end of June. Mr Goukouni was in Faya-Largeau when Mr Habre's soldiers launched their successful counter-attack on July 30. He had gone there from the southern Libyan town of Sebha, the base of Libyan operations in Chad. According to this version Mr Goukouni moved out just as Mr Habre's army launched its offensive. In Paris, French concern over the country's deepening military commitment to Chad was underlined yesterday with publication of an opinion poll showing 53 per cent of French people disapproved of the sending of troops to Chad, compared with 28 per cent in favour. Rag-tag army, page 5

Apology by US for aiding Barbie

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

The United States has apologized to France for helping Klaus Barbie, the "Butcher of Lyons", to evade French justice after the Second World War. The apology coincides with the publication yesterday of a 220-page report into American complicity in the Barbie affair. The report shows that Barbie worked as a paid informant between 1947 and 1951, and that US Army officers prevented his extradition to France by concealing knowledge of his whereabouts from the United States Government. It also shows that the US Army arranged his subsequent flight to Bolivia where he lived for the next 33 years.

Declaring that "We have delayed justice in Lyons", Mr Allan Ryan, a senior Justice Department official who compiled the report, said in a memorandum that "I therefore believe it appropriate... that the United States Government express to the Government of France its regret for its responsibility in delaying the due process of law in the case of Klaus Barbie".

The report and a mass of accompanying documents detail how Barbie was first recruited by the American Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC), and how, in the summer of 1950, CIC officers deliberately withheld information about his whereabouts to prevent his extradition to face trial on charges of war crimes. He lived in Bolivia as "Klaus Altmann" until his extradition to France last February. The report also contains intriguing references to the intense rivalry which existed between American, British, and French intelligence services in occupied Germany during the immediate post-war era.

Barbie had originally offered himself as an informant to the British, who were said to be "very interested" in obtaining his services. However, Barbie turned to the Americans after allegedly being mistreated by the British following his arrest by them at the end of 1946. One document shows that the

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Klaus Barbie: Paid informant

Leader race like 'beauty contest'

By Our Political Reporter

Mr Peter Shore, a contender for the Labour leadership, said yesterday that unless the party changed its policies and its style it would need a miracle to win power at the next general election. Mr Shore, who is considered to be running well behind Mr Neil Kinnock and Mr Roy Hattersley in the contest, said that too many trade unions had approached the leadership campaign "with an almost frivolous disregard of what is at stake - as though we were engaged in a political beauty contest".

The Shadow Chancellor's remarks, addressed to the executive council of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation in London, were clearly directed, although he did not name him, against Mr Kinnock, who has said far less about the need for the party to change its policies than either Mr Shore, himself for Mr Hattersley. Mr Shore said: "If the next leader fails to lead; if we fail to learn the lessons of the past four years; if we serve up the same policies with the same style and the same mismanagement of recent years, then we should need a miracle to win power again in 1987-88".

The fate of the Labour Party, of British industry and of the country could be crucially affected by the votes cast on October 2, he said. Meanwhile, Mr Hattersley responded to suggestions that he might feel more at home in the Liberal-Social Democratic Party Alliance, by declaring in a BBC radio interview: "I am the public enemy number one of the Alliance."

He said the Alliance's constant attacks on him undermined the strength of his moderate stance and the threat it posed to the Alliance. Bassett appeal, page 2

Maestro sales set six-month record

By Our Motoring Correspondent

The new Maestro car, the alleged target of left-wing infiltration at BL's Cowley plant, is proving so successful that dealers are forecasting a shortage later this month. In spite of being one of the cars not supported by factory discounts and dealer bonuses, the Maestro has had a better initial six months than Vauxhall's outstandingly successful Cavalier. The Cavalier was launched in September, 1981, and 25,400 were sold in its first six months. The Maestro appeared on March 1 this year and an estimated 49,000 will have been sold when its first six months ends on August 31. About 10,000 were registered in the first 10 days of August.

The Maestro has been averaging between 4 and 5 per cent of the market and is now in sixth place behind the Cavalier. Five per cent of the market is considered to be good for a model with a restricted engine range of only 1.3 and 1.6 litres appearing in hatchback form only at this stage. The Cavalier is a much wider range, comprising both hatchback and saloon versions with engines up to two litres. Mr Harold Musgrove, Austin Rover chairman, is confident that when the hatchback Maestro is joined in the spring by its bootied stablemate, the bigger LM11, it will do for the British company what the Cavalier did for Vauxhall.

The General Motors subsidiary doubled its market share in four years. Thanks to the Cavalier's seven per cent penetration, it expects to end 1983 holding 16 per cent and ready to challenge BL's position as No 2 with 20 per cent. Ford, the leader, has 30 per cent of the market. The Maestro set a record for the highest number of registrations by a British car in its first month, when 8,223 were registered. The previous best was 7,107 by the Fiesta in February, 1977. But almost immediately Maestro production was stopped for three-and-a-half weeks by the so-called "washing up" strike. It cost the company 9,000 Maestros.

Admission of lying criticized by union

By David Felton and Clifford Webb

Transport union officials complained last night that their attempts to defend the 13 alleged left-wing infiltrators dismissed by BL had been made more difficult by one of them admitting that she had lied on her job application form. Local officials of the Transport and General Workers Union and senior shop stewards meet managers at the Cowley plant near Oxford today to discuss the dismissals. A further two appeals against dismissal were rejected by the company yesterday, bringing the total rejected to 13. Mr David Buckle, district secretary of the union, said last night that the news conference called by Miss Stephanie Grant had not "helped us in any way with the representations I shall be making on behalf of the 13. Indeed I think she has made it more difficult now. On BBC radio, Mr Roger Rosewell, a former Marxist shopfloor organizer, said extreme left-wing groups will step up efforts to infiltrate key British companies when the economy starts to expand.

Briton sails into a bureaucratic squall

New York (AP) - An Englishman who sailed the Atlantic solo in his 20ft sloop, surviving food and fuel shortages and fighting high winds and waves, has had the wind knocked out of his sails by US Customs and Immigration officials. They say he entered the United States illegally. Ginger Elliott, aged 42, who left his home in Poole, Dorset, on May 7, did not have a visa to visit the United States, when authorities found him on Monday at a pier at 64th Street and the East River, they seized his valid British passport and told him to appear in court tomorrow where he faces a deportation hearing.

When Mr Elliott arrived a week ago at the island of Nantucket off Massachusetts, he was told Nantucket was not an official port of entry and he would have to go to Newport, Rhode Island, or New York City. "Well, when I came up to Newport, there was a good northerly blowing, so I thought was told he did not have proper clearances and would have to appear before a federal judge. At about 5.30 pm on Monday, he said, he tried to sail to College Point, where he could get a free berth for his boat, but the tide was too strong and he tied up just north of the 61st Street heliport. City police launches went to detain Mr Elliott for federal officials. Meanwhile, he was violating a city law which prohibits boats from docking in unauthorized locations. "I've found the people of the city friendly enough, but it's the officials who are always mucking it up", Mr Elliott complained, "but it's like that anywhere".



Mr Elliott: Visa trouble.

Scientology officers expelled

By Clifford Longley

The Church of Scientology has excommunicated 12 members of its headquarters staff in Britain for misconduct, after an internal investigation prompted by the conviction and imprisonment of senior Scientologists in the United States. Several other staff in the Office of Guardians of the church in East Grinstead, Sussex, have been moved to other positions. The expulsion of the 12 members has been recommended by Mrs Edith Buchele, the new external affairs director of the British church, after she uncovered what she described yesterday as "a complete mess."

Charges against the 12 included the misuse of church funds to launch a series of libel actions, particularly against British newspapers, but also against Scotland Yard and the Department of Health and Social Security. One senior member of the staff of the Office of Guardians has falsely claimed to be a barrister. The church's policy, as defined by its founder Mr Ron Hubbard, is to use legal means only as a last resort but above all "to live at peace with one's environment". Mrs Buchele said.

The office, which at one point had a staff of about forty, was closed earlier this year when the last expulsion happened. The international headquarters of the church has now been transferred from East Grinstead to Los Angeles. A new open policy has been adopted by the church in Britain, which has hitherto been noted for its secrecy. Yesterday The Times was allowed free access to any part of the complex of church buildings at St Hill Manor, East Grinstead.

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BMA launches inquiry into alternative forms of health treatment

By Nicholas Timmins

The British Medical Association yesterday launched an inquiry into alternative health treatments including faith healing and herbalism, with a call to doctors and lay therapists to submit information on the techniques they use.

The move comes after increasing interest among doctors and others in alternative forms of medicine, with the setting up of several centres combining traditional and alternative approaches.

The association's board of science has set up a working party that expects to take anything up to two years to report, and is calling in the first instance for information on a wide range of unconventional techniques. It will consider the feasibility and possible methods of assessing the value of alternative therapies whether used alone or to complement other treatments - some of these were examined in a series of articles in *The Times* last week.

The working party includes Sir Douglas Black, a recent past president of the Royal College of Physicians and a former chief scientist to the Department of Health, and Professor Linford Rees, a former president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Dr George Lewith, director of the Centre for the Study of Alternative Therapies, said that the working party was a good idea "but I hope it will be objective".

If alternative treatments were to be assessed only by traditional medical methods, the working party would make little progress. Different methods of evaluation would be needed if the working party was not to be "another mechanism for supporting entrenched and rather biased views", he said.

The working party, which includes two pharmacologists and two anaesthetists, was also criticized for not containing anyone noted for expertise in alternative approaches.

Professor James Payne, Professor of anaesthetics at London University, who is chairing the working party, said that the working party would have an open mind.

"Much success is being claimed for alternative therapy so we believe the time is right to gather information. We want to know what alternative therapies people are using and how they believe they work."

"There is no question that certain hypnotic techniques and acupuncture techniques have been shown to work in certain circumstances. We need to know in what circumstances and to what extent they could be universally applied."

"There is a great list of things we need to look at. Some of my colleagues are critical of the fact that a lot of charlatans are involved in alternative therapies, but the fact that a charlatan is using a technique does not necessarily mean that the technique is wrong."

The idea, he said, was not to force alternative therapies into standard methods of assessment. "We want experts in these fields to tell us how they think their methods work."

Dr Richard Tonkin, who has been involved in the recent establishment of the Research Council for Complementary Medicine, said that the setting up of the working party was encouraging.

The BMA is asking those wishing to supply information to the working party to do so by September 30.

Drug warning given to doctors

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A warning to doctors to be alert for side-effects from Ososin, a new anti-arthritis drug, has been issued by the Committee on Safety of Medicines. The warning comes after 300 reports from doctors of patients experiencing side-effects ranging from severe headaches to perforated bowels.

General practitioners have issued more than 500,000 prescriptions since the launch of the drug last December. But the number of reports received by the safety committee, under the yellow card reporting system, suggests that Ososin is no safer than conventional drugs which it is intended to replace.

However, Merck Sharp Dohme, the manufacturer, claims that it is well tolerated by patients because the active ingredient in the preparation is delivered into the body slowly and at a steady rate. The company's tests showed fewer side-effects than conventional indomethacin.

In common with Opren, the anti-arthritis drug which was withdrawn last year, Ososin is a non-steroidal preparation which was developed to avoid the adverse reactions that occur with some of the older anti-inflammatory drugs used to treat arthritic conditions. Its biologically active component is indomethacin, which is known to have harmful interactions if taken with some other drugs.

Mr Michael Regnard faces a prolonged battle with the Home Office over his claim that because he has a British birth certificate, he should not be expected to register as British because of a "departmental blunder" in 1972.

Mr Regnard, aged 25, a company director from Bath, says that when his father, who was born in Mauritius, registered himself as a British citizen after 14 years with the RAF, he was never told that his son should also be registered.

Born in a hospital in RAF Resting in West Germany before being taken to Britain a few months later, Mr Regnard has always considered himself a United Kingdom citizen and says that he finds the sudden questioning of his nationality "totally disgraceful".

The problem arose when Mr Regnard applied for a 10-year passport to enable him to go on holiday with his wife Judith. The passport office in Newport, Gwent, queried his application. The Home Office said yesterday that Mr Regnard would be allowed to return to Britain after his two-week holiday in Spain, which begins on September 17, but he would have to sign a registration form if he was to be considered a British subject.

Mr Nabi Nickman, aged 22, an Iranian student at Brunel Technical College, Bristol, who was imprisoned for 16 months after his visa expired in April last year, has been told by the Home Office that he can stay to complete his studies.

Rare illness death confirmed

From Arthur Osman Birmingham

A woman aged 59 died earlier this month from a kidney illness which has affected 18 others, mainly children, in the Black Country, it was confirmed yesterday. The cause of death had been given as natural causes and she was buried on August 11.

An official of the West Midlands regional health authority said: "This is not a notifiable disease and doctors not realizing that it was present in the community might not have linked other deaths with it."

Mrs Margaret McCart, of West Bromwich, was admitted to Sandwell district general hospital on July 20 and died after a lengthy battle with the illness. She had suffered from severe sickness and diarrhoea, the initial symptoms of haemolytic uremic syndrome. Some sufferers had been thought to have gastro-enteritis.

A girl aged two from Willenhall, West Midlands, died in hospital from the illness on August 5.

Six children are still detained in hospitals at Birmingham and Wolverhampton and the health authority said that two were still "poorly".

Mr John Maile, aged 17, of Stourport-on-Severn, Hereford and Worcester, was admitted to hospital on July 29. It was confirmed on Monday that he too was suffering from the illness. His condition was stable yesterday although he was still on a kidney dialysis machine.

Ex-RAF man in fight over citizenship

Mr Regnard: British birth certificate.

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Protest over flogging

Saudi Arabia has been told that the British public is strongly opposed to flogging as a form of punishment, the Foreign Office said yesterday.

A spokesman said that court authorities in Saudi Arabia had sentenced six Britons involved on smuggling alcohol amounted to 2,700 strokes of the cane and a total 18½ years imprisonment.

The Foreign Office said Britain's charge d'affaires, Mr Richard Muir, had told Saudi Arabian officials that there was strong feeling among the British public.

He said Britain was not protesting at the punishment but simply reflecting a point of view.

The six convicted men Peter Dwyer, sentenced to four and 600 strokes; Gordon Malloch, three-and-a-half years and 480 strokes; Peter Pratt, three years and 420 strokes; Brian Ethells, two-and-a-half years and 360 strokes; and Kevin Stoute, one-and-a-half years and 240 strokes.

Police warning to missing wife's friends

Former male friends of Mrs Diana Jones, the missing wife of an Essex doctor, will be contacted by police if they do not come forward, Det. Supt. Michael Ainsley, who is heading the search for her, said yesterday.

Mr Ainsley said an undisclosed number of men who were "personally involved" with Mrs Jones had not yet made themselves known. They could provide crucial information.

Mr Ainsley is leading the operation from a mobile incident room in the village of Goggeshall, where Mrs Jones, aged 35, lived with her husband, Dr Robert Jones.

She disappeared on July 23 after visiting a local public house with her husband. Mrs Jones is reported to have gone missing on several previous occasions. "I have given up all hope of finding her alive," Mr Ainsley said.

He indicated that police had a list of her former men friends. Appealing to them, he said: "I am in a position to identify certain people who have not yet come forward."

"I would ask them to contact us in order to save my officers the time and trouble of finding them. It will treat all information with the discretion it deserves."

Businessman imposed 'fine' for parking

After more than one hundred drivers had parked their cars uninvited in Brian Mills' forecourt he decided to remove the windscreen wiper blades from a car and return them to the driver only on payment of a £10 "fine". Croydon magistrates were told yesterday.

Mr Mills, aged 49, a property developer, of York House, Sydenham Road, Croydon, admitted unlawfully damaging a Datsun car belonging to Mrs Patricia Atkins.

He told the court that over the past four years he had counted more than 100 cars parked in his forecourt. He has six parking spaces in front of his front garden which were allocated to tenants living in his property.

Giving him a conditional discharge for twelve months, Mr Anrit Biswas, the magistrate, said Mills had adopted an inadvisable course of action. "But we have full sympathy with you," he added.



Flying machines: The Five Ways BMX cross-country bicycle team from Brighton practising for the national BMX championships, to be held in Birmingham at the end of next month. (Photograph: John Manning).

Tory party accused of sex bias

Mrs Carole Stegges was furious when the Conservatives rejected her as a party agent and accused them of sexual discrimination.

At an industrial tribunal yesterday she claimed that she had been passed over because she was married and had four children. She had complained to Mr Cecil Parkinson, then party chairman.

But Mr Richard Price, counsel for the Conservative Party, said that Mrs Stegges had worked for the Liberals for 10 years and had not even joined the Conservative Party when she applied for the job in August of last year.

She mentioned her enthusiasm for Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Falklands campaign, but only one month before the elections she was working for the Liberals and Mr Brian Stegges, her husband, had been a prospective Liberal candidate in Croydon North-east.

Mrs Stegges, aged 40, of Rosemary Road, Furnace Green, Crawley, west Sussex, told the tribunal that she had become disillusioned with the Liberals after the Lib-Lab pact and the alliance with the Social Democratic Party.

Mr John Leslie, a Conservative Central Office agent, said that he pointed out to all the applicants the drain on their social and private lives if they were successful. He decided that Mrs Stegges was unsuitable because she lacked the necessary characteristics, "diplomacy for example".

Mrs Stegges' failure had nothing to do with her sex or the fact that she had children, he said. "My approach to her was no different than to a man with children and a working wife."

Of the 23 applicants who passed the preliminary interview 12 were women.

The tribunal reserved its decision.

Outside the court, Mrs Stegges said: "I would have hoped the Conservative Party who helped bring in the sex discrimination law would have been a great deal more willing to pursue it." The application form "did not say you had to be a member of the party".

TV video games channel next year

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

A video games television channel available 24 hours a day every day of the week is to be launched in Britain next year by W. H. Smith, the high street retail chain.

A spokesman said yesterday: "If you want to play chess at 4 o'clock in the morning then you can."

The new channel which has just completed tests in California where it is being marketed for between \$10 and \$15 (£7.50 and £10) per home per month is the product of the Video Games Network. The British retail group has agreed to distribute the programming to cable television operators in the United Kingdom but it intends to make its own programming eventually, tailored specifically for the home market.

A set of 20 video games will be offered on the channel. Subscribers will be equipped with an electronic keyboard which will allow them to play the games. About a quarter of the games will be changed each month.

The channel will offer more than just video games. It is the company's intention to offer educational programmes, probably 25 per cent of its programmes will fall into that category. The channel will also have the facility for shopping from the armchair at the touch of a switch, now termed "teleshopping".

W. H. Smith, which is the leading retailer for home computers, principally the Sinclair products, is also keen to expand the range of video games it stocks. "If we cannot sell them down a cable we will have them on sale," the spokesman said.

The Government has invited applications for the first 12 pilot franchises for cable television systems. The multichannel networks, probably containing about 30 channels, are the type on which the Smith channel would be sold.

The cable network would be connected to Smith's computers housing the programmes on sale.

Home loans surge as money rolls in again

By Lorna Boerke

Lending for house purchase is surging ahead with Halifax Building Society, the biggest in Britain, reporting home loans up from 74,000 in the first half of 1982/83 to 100,000 for the same period this year. In money terms lending has increased from £1,320m to £1,955m - a rise of 48 per cent.

Loans for home improvements also rose significantly topping £165m for the first half of this year compared with £115m for the same period in 1982/83.

Although lending has been running at record levels, money coming into the Halifax available for home buyers fell substantially from £1,035m to £885m for the first half of this year.

That mirrors the experience of the industry as a whole though figures released yesterday by the Building Societies Association disclose a dramatic turnaround in the societies' fortunes after the July increase in rates.

Money is pouring into the societies once again, and net receipts for July at £739m were much higher than expected - more than double the June total of £319m. In addition the societies raised £200m from the wholesale money markets in an attempt to reduce the lengthening queues.

"For the first time for many months building societies attracted sufficient funds in July to meet the underlying demand for mortgage finance," Mr Richard Weir, secretary general of the Building Societies Association, said. "This does not mean, however, that mortgage queues will disappear overnight as there is still a backlog of demand built up during the first half of the year when societies were operating with uncompetitive interest rates."

Joseph raises new objections to reform of O levels

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

New objections to the reform of O levels and CSE were raised yesterday by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, as he announced he would make a decision on a new examination for 16-year-olds in the second quarter of next year.

His statement, designed to allay uncertainty about examination reform, said that he was asking the new examination quango, the Secondary Examinations Council, to advise him by the end of this year on how desirable it would be to have one examination at 16-plus.

His objections to the draft criteria for new mathematics and English examinations for 16-year-olds highlight his concern to ensure that the needs of all children, but especially the brightest, are met.

That concern has come across in his comments on proposed new examinations for history, French and physics. He has also made clear his distaste for new-fangled notions such as the social applications of physics.

The new English criteria developed by the Joint Council of GCE and CSE boards say students should demonstrate their ability to express care for the conventions of paragraphing, sentence structure, punctuation and so on in the written form of the language of the subject.

Sir Keith said a new examination should also require candidates to demonstrate their competence in the structures and vocabulary of standard written and spoken English. But examiners might give "some credit for effective spoken English using vocabulary or structure suited to a limited audience".

Many English teachers will not take kindly to this emphasis on standard English.

Sir Keith, together with the Secretary of State for Wales, is worried too about the section of the joint council criteria on English in a multi-cultural society. That said examiners should consider whether special provision should be made for candidates whose mother tongue is not English.

Yesterday's statement from Sir Keith said: "National criteria for English should require all candidates to demonstrate their command of the standard forms of the language without excluding other forms."

The minister's detailed concern with examination reform is unprecedented and has given rise to worries that he is dragging his feet about a development which has been in the pipeline for more than a decade.

But politically it is a difficult decision to go down in history as the minister who abolished O levels.

Pupils want preparation for work

By Our Education Correspondent

Young people believe overwhelmingly that school should prepare them for work and are frustrated that it does not, according to a report published yesterday by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Part of the difficulty lies with the schools because they operate in isolation from the world of work and what is taught in class ignores that world, the report says. It took two-and-a-half years to complete and was based on information from 15 countries, including Britain.

"What they [young people] will do as adults seems to have little relationship to what they do in school, even though they are repeatedly being told that school is preparation for adulthood," the report says.

A boy clerk in Britain is quoted as saying: "I found that at school we were only taught to pass exams. . . . We were not educated about life. . . . I discovered in my school life that I went to, listened to and learnt more from teachers who had worked outside the education circle. Perhaps it was a coincidence."

Schools have tried to do something about that by introducing textbooks about work, or by calling education a form of work.

"But no direct experience is offered of what it means to be a worker: adhering to time schedules, to contracts, relating to fellow workers, getting to know the position of one's job in the labour market, and so on."

Fall in apple crop set to raise prices

An unexpectedly sharp decline in the European apple crop is likely to mean substantially higher prices in the shops this autumn, as much as a quarter up on last year, (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes).

However, Mr Dick Waiding, chief executive of the Apple and Pear Development Council, said that supplies should still be enough to meet demands.

Quoting authoritative German sources, he forecast a 7 per cent drop in the British crop from 375,000 tonnes to 330,000 tonnes, but for the EEC as a whole, the fall was expected to be about 34 per cent, from 8,545,000 tonnes to 6,471,000 tonnes.

In contrast, pears were expected to be more plentiful.

Charity walker found safe

A long-distance charity walker, Mr Anthony Lancaster, missing for three days in Snowdonia, was found safe and well yesterday.

Mr Lancaster, aged 24, of Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire, telephoned police from the Pen-y-Pass youth hostel near Capel Curig, Gwynedd, apparently unaware that a big search had been launched. Mr Lancaster had camped out on the mountainside to rest after feeling unwell.

Lynx to return to Pyrenees

Two five-year-old lynx from Ribes Zoo, Matlock, Derbyshire, are to be released next month in the French Pyrenees where the animal became extinct 100 years ago.

Mr Edward Hallam, the zoo curator, said yesterday that the French was backed by the French Government and the World Wildlife Fund. "We have been breeding lynx for 20 years and now have 40. This is the realization of a life's ambition."

Chase girl died of head injury, coroner told

Elizabeth Nicholson, aged nine, who ran into the path of a car while being chased by a gang of boys, died of a skull fracture and brain injury, a coroner was told at Newcastle upon Tyne yesterday.

She died in Newcastle General Hospital on Monday, three days after the accident on the A19 near Seaham, co Durham.

The inquest on the girl, of Malvern Crescent, Seaham, was opened yesterday and adjourned to a date to be fixed.

Man accused of girl's murder

Robert John France, aged 27, of Birch Road, Langtoft, near Bourne, Lincolnshire, was sent for trial accused of murder after appearing at a special court in Bourne yesterday.

He will appear at either Lincoln Crown Court or Nottingham Crown Court charged with murdering Gillian Lesley Atkins, aged 14, of Brownlow Drive, Deeping St James, on or about April 4.

Police escort football fans

More than 100 supporters of Middlesbrough Football Club were escorted home by the police after a match with Hull City on Monday night. Their legs on the way to the match, left without them because the drivers said they would not risk further incidents.

The police persuaded Hull Corporation to make two coaches available and two officers travelled in each vehicle. Seven supporters were arrested.

Stowaways to fly home

Five Algerian stowaways who came to Britain by mistake on a cargo ship are to be flown home at the expense of the Algerian Government.

The Home Office said yesterday that the five men, held in Gloucester jail, would return on the first available Algerian aircraft. They had thought that the ship was going to Spain.

Nkomo returns from exile but refuses to engage in controversy

Mr Joshua Nkomo came home yesterday to a reception which was in stark contrast to the last time he returned from exile. Less than 100 supporters gathered at the airport to chant and sing on his arrival after five months in Britain, compared with an estimated 120,000 who welcomed him back in January, 1980.

Mr Nkomo, who expressed his delight at being home, said his first public task would be to appear in Parliament today to challenge a motion by the ruling Zanu (PF) Party to have his seat declared vacant.

At a press conference later, at which he dodged and parried questions on the sensitive issues of Matabeleland and guerrilla violence, he spoke of a need for a comprehensive solution to Zimbabwe's problems, but was not specific.

Spokesmen for his Patriotic Front party claimed that the low-key welcome, both at the airport and at his Harare home, was by design and intended to prevent incidents.

Mr Nkomo was accompanied on the overnight flight from London by Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, the Minister of Home

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Affairs, generally seen as an opponent of compromise over the rift between their respective parties. Mr Nkomo said he had had no contact with Dr Ushewokunze in London but that they had shaken hands and joked on the aircraft.

He spent more than an hour in the airport terminal being questioned by customs officials and by immigration officers about his unconventional exit from Zimbabwe on March 8 when he fled across the border to Botswana claiming his life was in danger. On emerging he was surrounded by about 60 ululating women and men chanting "Zee", the rallying cry of the Patriotic Front.

Mr Nkomo, smiling broadly and carrying the walking stick which has become his symbol, was guided to a car and driven to his second home in Harare's Highfields suburb where about 200 supporters were assembled.

The last time Mr Nkomo assembled a press conference at the house on January 29 it was to disclose massacres of his supporters by the Fifth Brigade in Matabeleland.

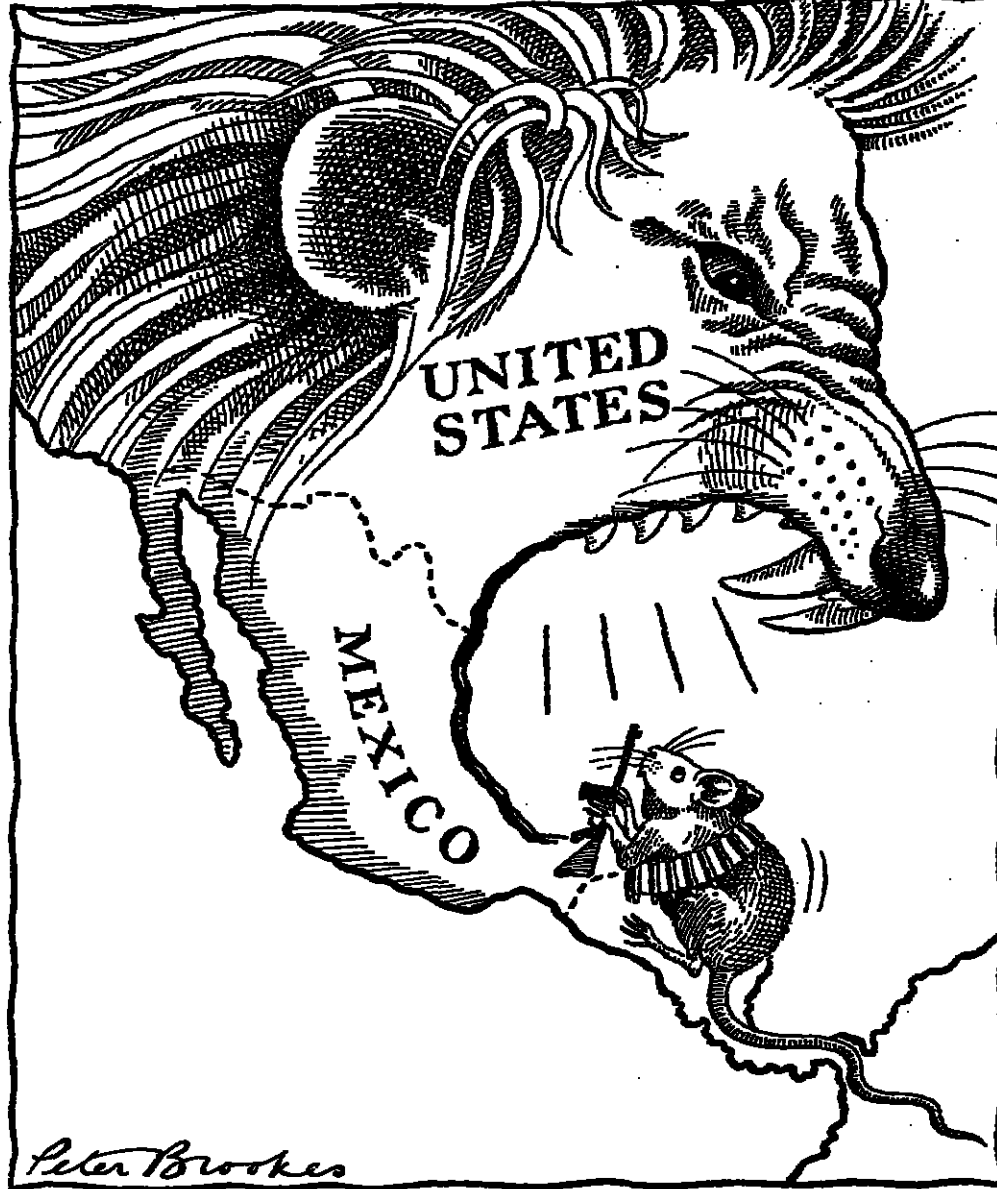
Yesterday he was treading

cautiously and his statements were of a far less dramatic nature. He emphasized it was vital that Zimbabweans be ready and willing to discuss their problems and find solutions, but he declined to define what he thought the problems were or how they could be tackled.

He confirmed that he had written to Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, while away, but said he had received no reply. Nevertheless he thought his absence had provided a necessary period for passions to cool.

"We must be prepared to sacrifice our face if necessary for the good of the country," Mr Nkomo said. The Government has said that the motion to strip Mr Nkomo of his seat because he has missed 21 consecutive days of parliament will proceed.

Even if the motion is approved Mr Nkomo is virtually certain to stay on as an MP because under the Lancaster House constitution the Patriotic Front, which holds 20 seats in the 100-seat assembly, can nominate whoever it wishes to fill those seats.



"America is the lion's heart of democracy. We have an obligation to give that democracy a voice, even an occasional roar." - President Reagan

Mugabe acts to curb corruption

Alarmed at indications of a growth in corruption and misuse of public funds, the Zimbabwe Government is to amend anti-corruption legislation to provide stiffer penalties for the guilty, including forfeiture of property to the state.

Since Mr Robert Zvoinira, the former Zimbabwe High Commissioner to London, was recalled earlier this year over disclosures that he had paid £585,000 against Government instructions for a London mansion a number of such incidents have come to light.

Among those implicated are eight officials who have been charged with stealing aid meant for drought relief and the former Secretary-General of the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society who has appeared in court over an alleged £230,000 illegal foreign currency deal.

Bigger fish are still at large.

From Our Correspondent, Harare

Earlier this year Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, attacked avarice in local government officials and castigated members of his Cabinet who he said had acquired huge property interests since independence.

In the forefront of investigations into misuse of public funds is the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee which in a recent indictment of the financial conduct of the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Recreation implicated Mr George Rutanhire, the Deputy Minister, who accepted a £3,800 loan from a property dealer after the Ministry bought a farm from him at a price twice its assessed value.

The same committee has criticised the Ministry of Defence for spending £2.5m over the past five years which has been unaccounted for. The most spectacular case of

corruption involves Mr Patrick Kombayi, the former Mayor of Gweru, who was suspended from office in March and has since been expelled from the ruling party in which he once wielded some influence.

Mr Kombayi, who spent more than £65,000 of council funds on a mayoral Mercedes Benz and gold chains of office, was accused by the Government in June of a catalogue of misdemeanours including directing council contracts to his own businesses and putting more than 100 of his supporters on the city payroll as a personal police force. For these and other matters he is now under police investigation.

Although such cases are disturbing, not least to senior members of the Government, independent observers take it as a healthy sign that they are coming to light and in most cases action is being taken.

Father says he would have killed

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Mr Harry Mullocks, father of Mrs Maureen Smith, the London woman sentenced to death in South Africa for the murder of her husband, was prepared to kill himself if it seemed the only way of ending his daughter's unhappy marriage, according to an affidavit submitted to the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein yesterday.

The affidavit, made in London by Mr Mullocks, who refused to give evidence at his daughter's trial in Johannesburg, formed the basis to an application by defence counsel for his evidence to be taken on commission in London and the trial reopened.

Five judges are hearing Mrs Smith's appeal against her conviction and sentence for the murder of her husband, Roger Smith, in Johannesburg last July. They are also hearing the appeals against their death sentences of the two black assassins hired to carry out the killing, Jack Ramagane and David Mnguni.

In the affidavit, Mr Mullocks said he twice refused to assist his daughter's legal advisers, at first because he was warned he might be arrested in South Africa and tried as an accomplice, and on the second occasion after being told he could face prosecution in Britain. He was convinced then that his daughter would not be sentenced to death.

On the day of the murder, he said, his daughter telephoned him and said she needed 10,000 rands (about £6,000). It was obvious this was to pay the killers, and he indicated he would arrange with a Durban bank to release the money to his granddaughter, Miss Karen Wood.

Mr Mullocks said he believed that unless something was done to get rid of Mr Smith, who refused to give his wife a divorce. He was also furious over Mr Smith's threats to blackmail him with photocopies of documents taken from his safe.

"It is clear that I wanted Smith to be disposed of," the affidavit stated. "He was causing my daughter a great deal of unhappiness, and it was quite clear that he would not give his wife her freedom in the conventional way."

Later, he said, it seemed more practical if someone in South Africa was employed to get rid of Mr Smith.

Mrs Smith and her fellow-murderers were not at the Appeal Court yesterday. Mr Mnguni, it was said, was a poor man and the offer of 10,000 rands to carry out the murder had seemed a fortune. Mr Ramagane had been threatened with losing his job as the Smith family chauffeur if he did not follow instructions.



Emphatic message: Mr Arens stating his Government's position loud and clear in Beirut.

Israel gives Lebanon unwritten ultimatum

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Professor Moshe Arens flew into Beirut yesterday with a message for President Gemayel of Lebanon. The Israeli Defence Minister did not meet the Lebanese leader, nor did he carry a written ultimatum.

The message, however, was loud and clear. Start negotiating now between the rival Christian and Druze militias in the Chouf mountains - because the Israelis are about to withdraw even if the two sides have not stopped fighting.

Mr Arens delivered his most stringent comments at a press conference at Yarsa, warning the Syrians not to attack the Israeli Army in the Bekaa valley and disclaiming any Israeli responsibility for the continuing savagery in the Israeli-occupied Chouf.

Then he said his advisers went to east Beirut, reportedly for talks with Mr Fadi Frem, the commander of the Christian Phalangist militia. The visit must have concentrated a few minds in the offices of the Lebanese Cabinet half a mile away.

All Mr Arens could offer the Lebanese Government was an assurance that Israel intended to withdraw from the whole of Lebanon and that the redeployment of the Israeli Army along the Awali River was "only part of that total withdrawal."

Reading from a prepared text, he added: "It is our firm desire to see a strong central government restoring its authority over the whole of Lebanon... it is Syria which is doing everything to prevent the total evacuation of all foreign forces from this country."

Mr Arens said that the Israeli Army would do all it could to ensure a peaceful

handover of the Chouf to the Lebanese Army but there was no doubt about what was on his mind.

"The Lebanese Government," he said, "should be putting greater emphasis on trying to reach a political accommodation between Christian and Druze communities in the Chouf and coordinating the future redeployment of the Lebanese Army units with us in the light of our planned evacuation of the area... We cannot make the movement of our troops contingent on arrangements that may or may not be made in the area."

By far his harshest words were reserved for the Syrians. President Assad, he said, was a dictator. "Like many dictators in the world past and present (he) is intent on military confrontations in order to strengthen his position at home. We had that kind of experience before with the Syrians so I would not rule out the possibility that the Syrians would be looking for a military confrontation."

He added: "I assure you they would be beaten very soundly if there was to be a new confrontation between the Israeli and Syrian armies."

Meanwhile, Beirut airport reopened yesterday to commercial airliners after being closed for six days.

TEL AVIV: The partial withdrawal of the Israeli Army from a 600 square kilometre area of occupied Lebanon, including the Chouf mountains, is due to begin "in a matter of days", according to Lieutenant-General Moshe Levy, the new Chief of Staff of the Israel Defence Forces (Christopher Walker writes).

Reagan men may take lie tests

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The FBI wants to give lie-detector tests to several senior figures as part of its investigation into how Mr Ronald Reagan's 1980 presidential campaign got hold of documents from the Carter White House.

According to *The Washington Post*, the FBI is seeking the Justice Department's permission to give such tests to Mr William Casey, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Mr James Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, as well as about 10 other people.

The purpose, it is said, is to resolve inconsistencies that have arisen during the investigation. Mr Baker has said he received Carter briefing papers for the 1980 presidential campaign from Mr Casey, but Mr Casey says he does not recall seeing the papers.

Mr Casey, who directed the 1980 Reagan campaign, has denied there was an intelligence operation seeking information and documents from inside the Carter campaign team.

The Washington Post yesterday quoted an investigator as saying that "a strong, unavoidable inference" that such an operation was receiving information from somebody working for President Jimmy Carter was contained in a memorandum to Mr Casey from a Reagan aide.

After a campaign-style speech-making tour, President Reagan arrived by helicopter at his ranch in Santa Barbara, California, yesterday for a holiday.

His holiday was delayed a day or so that he could talk to war veterans about his Central America policy, his main campaign issue, and his main reference to the Soviet Union, who left the Soviet Union in 1944 and became a Belgian citizen in 1967, shortly before his arrest.

Mr Lukianov was a wartime officer in the Red Army before

Peking gives Hongkong breather until 1997

From Reuters, Mr Hu Yaobang, the Communist Party leader, has made it clear that China is prepared to wait until 1997 to recover sovereignty over Hongkong.

He told a Japanese newspaper delegation yesterday that China did not recognize the treaties under which Britain governs the territory, but he said Peking intended to recover sovereignty on July 1, 1997, the day after one of the Anglo-Chinese agreements expires.

"The recovery will be no sooner or later than that date, a day after the 1898 treaty will expire. (This is the treaty under which Britain leased Hongkong's New Territories for 99 years.)"

"We simply respect consequences of history, although we cannot approve the unfair treaty."

Western diplomats said this was the strongest sign so far that Peking does not propose to

Russians refuse to hand back war criminal

Moscow (AFP) - Mr Yermak Lukianov, a Soviet-born Belgian citizen sentenced to death here on July 8 for war crimes, will not be handed back to the Belgian authorities, Tass said yesterday.

Mr Lukianov, aged 63, was arrested while on holiday here with his family in 1968 and spent 15 years in a Soviet psychiatric institution before being released last year and subsequently tried.

Tass listed Second World War crimes for which the military court in Elista, capital of the Kalmyk autonomous republic northwest of the Caspian Sea, sentenced Mr Lukianov to death.

The article was the first reference by the Soviet news agency to Mr Lukianov, who left the Soviet Union in 1944 and became a Belgian citizen in 1967, shortly before his arrest.

Mr Lukianov was a wartime officer in the Red Army before being captured by the Nazis and changing sides to fight for them in German-occupied regions of the Soviet Union and in Poland, Tass said.

"The circumstances of Lukianov's betrayal and of the crimes he committed in the Soviet Union and Poland are recorded in a 45-volume dossier containing documentary proof of his guilt."

In Belgium, the Foreign Minister, Mr Leo Tindemans, said that a consular agreement between Belgium and the Soviet Union stipulated that each be notified in the event of a trial of one of its citizens.

Moscow (Reuters) - Aleksander Korol, a Byelorussian who collaborated with the Germans during the Second World War, has been sentenced to death, Tass reported. Soviet authorities had been hunting Korol, accused of being involved in a massacre, for 40 years.

Taps and tempers run short in Spain

From Harry Debelins, Madrid

Suspicion that the shotgun killing of a farmer in south-east Spain may have been motivated by a dispute over irrigation waters focused attention here yesterday on a growing wave of drought-provoked violence.

Senior Pascual Mena was shot close to midnight on August 1 while watering his land near Murcia from irrigation canals, in an area where tension has built over the distribution of diminishing supply of water.

After more than three years of drought, some farmers have been taking more than their authorized share from canals and resorting to such tactics as irrigation under cover of darkness or diverting water from other farms.

On August 3, more than 2,000 inhabitants of the farming village of Dolores, near Murcia, overpowered a small detachment of the Civil Guard keeping watch over an irrigation canal and with a power shovel scooped out a hole in the side of the canal thus diverting water to their farms.

Poll results puts Ibadan in fear

Lagos (Reuters) - President Shagari's party swept governorship elections in the troubled western state of Oyo, raising fears of renewed violence as official results were announced yesterday.

The results gave Mr Omololu Olanloye, the candidate of Mr Shagari's National Party of Nigeria, a victory by a large majority over Mr Bola Ige, the Governor and candidate of the Unity Party of Nigeria.

But Mr Ige contested the results in a radio broadcast from Ibadan, the state capital where seven people died in violence during the voting on Saturday. He said that he was the rightful winner, and warned what he called "political robbers" that they would not be allowed to rule the state.

"As far as I and the UPN and the people of Oyo are concerned, I won the elections with a landslide," Mr Ige said.

"Those who sow the seeds of evil will reap the whirlwind." Residents in Ibadan were said to fear renewed violence.

The radio said that an uneasy calm prevailed with most markets shut and Ibadan streets deserted. Public meetings have been banned throughout Oyo for two weeks.

The NPN received 58 per cent of the vote in Oyo, a stunning gain over Mr Shagari's 37 per cent poll in the presidential elections. In the army-run elections in 1979, the NPN merely denied the vote in the state.

The Oyo state government radio, reporting on the tension in Ibadan, punctuated its programme with a song by the popular Nigerian pop star, Fela Kuti, entitled "Danger, Danger."

Overall returns gave the NPN control of eight of 12 states declared so far in the first elections organized by civilians in 20 years.

Newspaper reports said that tension was rising in several parts of the country as the NPN won in opposition strongholds.

Letter from Trieste

Castle of learning with a purple past

Once more, Duino is to be subjected to foreign occupation. Those who served over 30 years ago under Generals Harding, Airey or Winterton in the HQ administering the so-called Free Territory of Trieste will remember the wooden huts, the trestle tables, the British Army's ubiquitous mugs of tea and the officers' mess in the castle up the road.

For me to come back had something of the atmosphere of *Brideshead Revisited*, although the castle has long been returned to its owners. My camp bed in a castle annex used to stand in a corner of a room that is being redecorated to become the headmaster's drawing room.

For Duino will open in September as home of the United World College of the Adriatic, the first group presided over by the Prince of Wales to be situated outside the English speaking world.

"Village campus" is the description of the headmaster, David Sutcliffe, previously in charge of the College of the Atlantic, in Wales.

About 60 students will live in the castle annex, which is being given a face-lift with the installation of parquet floors and marble-walled showers. But most, more than 100, will be put up in guest houses in the village. The old village school, being converted into modern classrooms, is still a builder's site but, as usual in Italy, most things will probably fall into place at the last moment.

It would be difficult to find a more cosmopolitan location. Three cultures meet here, Italian, Slav and Germanic. Most of Duino's 1,150 inhabitants are Slovenes and the village is dominated, on a cliff overlooking the sea, by the castle of the Principe di Torre A Tasso. He is better known as the Prince of Thurn and Taxis, whose family instituted postal services in Central Europe long before the penny blacks of Victorian England.

The mayor, Signor Albino Sterk, is a slovene commu-

nist. He has, to quote Mr Sutcliffe, given "wonderful support" to the project for the college and is on its board.

The staff have just spent a cramped year lodged temporarily in a hotel on the coast towards Trieste with a first intake of 17 and 18-year-olds from 32 countries as far apart as Argentina, Zimbabwe and China. Scholarship funded and non-fee paying, the college runs two year pre-university courses, and will get regularly into its stride in a few weeks time.

The project was first mooted in 1971, but after the Friuli earthquake of 1976, Mr Sutcliffe says, "We really thought it was dead and buried". It nevertheless came about thanks to the Friuli-Venezia Giulia regional government's support.

The area abounds in literary associations, classical and modern. Virgil, Livy and Strabo mention the Timavo river, which remains a couple of miles away after mysterious underground meanderings in Yugoslavia. The Austrian poet Rainer Maria Rilke conceived his Duino elegies in the castle and published them in 1922, the same year as James Joyce published *Ulysses*, conceived in Trieste.

But all this was remote from the villagers, whose fathers remembered better the artillery bombardments of the First World War, or the prohibition under Fascism to use their language or their surnames. It was at Duino the Archduke Franz Ferdinand stepped before departure in 1914 for Sarajevo and assassination.

After the Second World War, the castle was the scene of a virtual ultimatum from the British to Marshal Tito's chief of staff. It will be a new experience for the villagers to be directly involved in an experiment directed towards international understanding rather than international tension.

John Earle

Superpower row over second boy

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Moscow (Reuters) - The Soviet Union has protested to the United States over the questioning of a teenage Soviet boy who was about to fly home from Washington, Tass reported yesterday.

A Note passed from the Soviet Embassy in Washington to the State Department described the incident, involving the son of a Tass correspondent, as a provocation. It accused the United States authorities of trying to persuade the boy to stay in America.

According to reports from Washington, the boy was questioned by officials trying to locate the 16-year-old son of a senior Soviet diplomat who wrote to President Reagan saying he wanted to stay.

Tass said the son of its correspondent Mr Vyacheslav Kukharevich had been trying to board an aircraft at Dulles Airport with his family when he was twice interrogated by immigration officials and FBI agents.

The American officials had "flagrantly tried to talk Kukharevich's 15-year-old son into staying in the United States rather than returning to the Soviet Union."

Tass made no reference to the case of the diplomats son, Andrei Berezkhov, and there has been no mention of it at all in the Soviet media so far.

Tass said the case of the Tass correspondent's son showed "that a systematic provocation campaign is being conducted against Soviet people working in Washington, interfering in the normal functioning of Soviet agencies."

United States police have been watching the homes of Soviet diplomats to ensure no attempt is made to smuggle the Andrei Berezkhov out of the country against his will.

Relatives go to memory loss tourist

Washington - Relatives of Mantis Gassianus, aged 24, who is in hospital in Portland, Oregon, with almost total loss of memory, are to join him from England and Australia within a day or two (Christopher Thomas writes).

The hospital yesterday confirmed his identity beyond doubt. Mr Gassianus, who had come from Melbourne, had been in England and was hitchhiking through the United States when the car in which he was travelling crashed.

When he regained consciousness he thought his name was David Miller. It is believed he is of Lithuanian descent although a language test was inconclusive.

Rash climbers die in Alps

Grindelwald (Reuters) - Since the beginning of June 64 mountaineers have been killed in the Swiss Alps, 23 of them this month, police said. Most deaths appeared to be caused by recklessness.

Five died in the Valais over the weekend, two of them Frenchmen climbing the Matterhorn; a West German died on Monday on a section, rather than returning to the Soviet Union.

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Buried alive

Freetown (Reuters) - About 50 miners are feared to have died in a mining accident in eastern Sierra Leone, the *Freetown Daily Mail* said. They were buried alive when a huge boulder caved in last week on a mining site belonging to the National Diamond Co near Yengema.

Flag insulted

Madrid - A town councillor in San Sebastian, Señor Herri Batasuna, who helped Basque extremists take down the Spanish flag from the town hall on Monday was arrested. The flag had only hours earlier been hoisted to mark the city's annual fiesta.

Historic poll

Port-au-Prince (AFP) - Mr France Romanin swept the vote with 98 per cent of the poll to become Mayor of Port-au-Prince in the final round of the first municipal elections in Haiti for 26 years.

Typhoon chaos

Tokyo (Reuters) - Landslips and floods caused by the approach of Typhoon Abby have stranded about 18,000 train passengers west of Tokyo. One woman was drowned in a swollen river near Mt Fuji.

Mine tragedy

Johannesburg (Reuters) - Six black miners were killed when a rock burst 6,000ft underground at the world's deepest gold mine, Western Deep Levels, south-west of Johannesburg.



Rag-tag army prepares to defend Ndjamena against rebel advance

From Joseph Althright, Cox News Service

Massakori, Chad - At a former French military post 90 miles north of the capital, a rag-tag unit of Chadian soldiers languidly prepared to stop any Libyan advance.

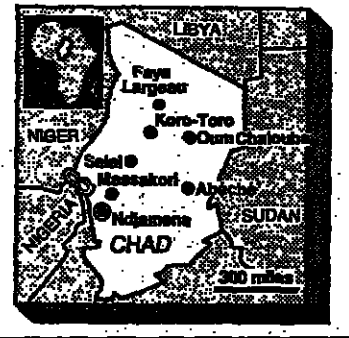
"If the Libyans come, we will throw them back to the base where they came from," said Tchou Yayo, aged 30, a soldier in camouflage fatigues and rubber sandals. Thirty-five strong, these men of the Brigade Militaire de Massakori defend one of the two sizable towns between the Libyan tanks and Chad's capital, Ndjamena.

Chad's frontline army, or what remains of it, is based 196 miles farther north at a small desert village called Salal. Also at Salal is a small detachment of French paratroopers.

Libyan and Libyan-backed rebel forces are reportedly regrouping after they seized the town of Faya Largeau, forcing the Chadian defenders to withdraw to Salal, 280 miles to the south.

Here at Massakori, the brigade commander, Salah Hilli, a wizened former guerrilla fighter who says he is 30, keeps a loaded grenade launcher behind the desk of his mud-brick office. As he showed two visiting correspondents around the dusty courtyard of his garrison, half a dozen rifles of uncertain vintage could be seen propped against a tree.

The commander was bitter about the Libyan victory in the north. "Libya: it is rich from oil, that is why they have the tanks," he said. He picked up a pinch of dusty sand and let it drop. "The land, that is our father and our mother. We are Chadians. For



our country we are ready to die."

Muhammad Hadje, a 15-year-old soldier with a Kalashnikov rifle hanging from his shoulder, watched as his commander was being interviewed.

Through an Arabic-speaking interpreter, a reporter asked the young soldier whether he, too, was ready to face the Libyans. Seemingly not to understand, he said nothing. The commander repeated the question. When the young soldier again said nothing, he slapped him smartly across the face. "I am ready to fight," Hadje said finally.

Massakori is a sprawling town of one-storey mud-walled houses with a population estimated at 10,000 by one French doctor.

On Sunday, when the journalists arrived, an ostrich stood under a tree about 50 yards from the commander's office. In the centre of the town, several hundred yards away, there is a large open marketplace.

It was market day, and the place was packed with several thousand Chadians, along with



Memphis pilgrimage: Fans flocking to Elvis Presley's grave on the sixth anniversary of the singer's death.

Promise to keep the Rand Daily Mail open

From Our Correspondent Johannesburg

A commitment to continue publication of the Johannesburg *Rand Daily Mail*, South Africa's leading anti-government and campaigning newspaper has been given by its owners, South African Associated Newspapers.

The RDM, as it is known, is running at a huge loss and there has been growing speculation that it would be forced to close or abandon its intensely political format and become a financial daily. Mr Clive Kinsey, managing director of the newspaper group, said in a statement published on the front page yesterday: "The closure of the *Mail* is not an option it (the board) will consider. Nor will it allow the character of the newspaper to be changed."

But he also announced that from October 4 its business news section would be carried in a separate supplement and that "refinements" would be introduced gradually to the general news pages. The *Mail* has an audited circulation of 118,000 copies a day, is facing stiff competition from the *Citizen*, the newspaper launched with secret funds by the now defunct Department of Information to counter the *Mail's* vigorous anti-apartheid line.

The *Citizen* has steadily closed on the *Mail* and has an audited circulation of 72,000 copies daily, claiming to have a higher percentage of white readers. The *Mail*, published a special edition for blacks which the *Citizen* claims accounts for half its daily circulation.

Mr Kinsey's statement indicates that the *Mail* will continue to cater specially for its black readers despite arguments that a large black readership discourages advertisers who feel the best returns are still to be found among higher income whites.

The assurance that the *Mail* will not change its character will also be a comfort to the official opposition, the Progressive Federal Party which the newspaper has championed since its inception. South African Associated Newspapers yesterday reported a 39 percent drop in earnings for the first six months of the year and said that the *Mail* would record "a heavy loss" this year and next.

But the English-language press is faring better on the whole than Afrikaans-language newspapers. In Johannesburg, *Die Transvaler*, the mouthpiece of the National Party in the Transvaal, has been forced to abandon the battle for survival and has merged with two Pretoria evening newspapers.

Why Honecker is so welcome

Warsaw (Reuters) - Herr Erich Honecker, the East German head of state, began a three day visit yesterday as part of a process of rehabilitating Poland in the eyes of its Soviet block allies after three years of political upheaval.

His arrival coincided with the announcement of new measures in Gdansk to prevent demonstrations after two days of protests by workers supporting the banned trade union Solidarity.

The two leaders began talks yesterday. Polish newspapers said his visit opened a new stage in relations with East Germany.

The party newspaper *Trybuna Ludu* said Herr Honecker was coming at a time when Western states were trying to exploit Poland's internal problems to undermine bonds among socialist countries.

The Deputy Prime Minister Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, in an interview on US television on Monday, ruled out talks with Mr Lech Walesa, leader of Solidarity as demanded by a secret shipyard workers' group, which called for a go-slow if

Western diplomats see his visit, the first to Poland by a Soviet block head of state since martial law was lifted last month, as setting a seal of approval on General Jaruzelski's handling of the Solidarity challenge.

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Pakistani police fire into air to halt riot

From Hasan Akhtar Islamabad

Police fired into the air yesterday at Dadu, a town about 300 miles north of Karachi, to break up a crowd, estimated at about 2,000 people, which had attacked two banks, a telephone exchange and Government vehicles. Several people are believed to have been injured and some arrested.

Police are also reported to have fired shots to quell a jail riot in Nawabshah, in Sind. Nawabshah's principal political figure, Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, a former chief minister of Sind, was arrested on Monday in Karachi for defying a ban on political activity.

In Hyderabad, another important city of Sind about 100 miles north of Karachi, medical students boycotted their classes and demonstrated outside their college with slogans against martial law and demanding the release of Miss Benazir Bhutto, daughter of the executed Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who has been in detention since March 1981, and other detained opposition leaders.

Police are also reported to have fired tear gas shells in Tharparkar, in Sind, to break up a protest rally. In Rawalpindi several hundred people turned up on a busy road yesterday to applaud six political workers who defied the ban on public demonstrations and courted arrests.

Press reports say that protests continued in Karachi for the third day yesterday when some opposition leaders defied prohibitory orders and held a demonstration. Similar incidents were reported from other towns.

Several people including a child were injured in a bomb explosion on Monday in Lahore, the Punjab provincial capital.

Sri Lankan tea workers seek safety

Colombo (Reuters) - Thousands of people of Indian origin in Sri Lanka, victims of last month's racial riots, are seeking assurances of protection from the Sri Lankan Government.

The Ceylon Workers Congress (CWC), the main trade union of the people who work in the island's tea plantations, has sought a meeting with President Jayawardene to discuss measures to enable them to live in Sri Lanka "with dignity, safety and security as equals with the rest of the population".

Mr Savumiamoorthy Theandam, the CWC president, who is also Minister of Rural Industrial Development, told Reuters he would have to advise people of Indian origin, including those who had Sri Lankan citizenship, to go back to India if the Government was unable to give them adequate protection.

Indian Tamils, now numbering around 825,000, are the descendants of people brought from southern India by the British more than 100 years ago to work in tea and rubber plantations in the Central Highlands.

They form a separate group from the Sri Lanka Tamils, who live mainly in the northern and eastern provinces and are demanding a separate state.

Sri Lanka and India signed agreements in 1964 and 1974 under which 375,000 Indian Tamils in the island would be granted Sri Lankan citizenship and 600,000 people would be repatriated to India. Up to the end of last year, 406,000 people had been repatriated and Sri Lanka had given citizenship to 176,000.

The CWC said in a statement that a concerted attempt had been made to destroy the houses and belongings of Indian origin during the riots.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka, its image as a peaceful paradise island shattered by the riots, has launched a drive to attract tourists again.

Officials said there were about 10,000 visitors in the country when the ethnic violence started.

During the troubles, Sri Lanka suspended all charter flights bringing tourists and advised diplomatic missions and tourist offices abroad not to encourage visitors to come to the island.

Jayawardene pleases President Jayawardene has described the riots as a crisis not only of political and economic decline but also a crisis of civilization (our correspondent writes).

He said on Monday: "We have lived in very troubled times. It is too early to assess how it happened and why it happened and on my part I must take a large measure of the blame for the traumatic experience we have all gone through."

Insurgents pound Kabul fortress

Islamabad (Reuters) - Afghan guerrillas staged a five-hour attack at the weekend on a Soviet-manned fortress overlooking Kabul, Western diplomats said here yesterday.

They quoted their embassies as saying the attack, which lasted late into Saturday night, was one of the largest seen in the capital since the Soviet intervention in 1979.

The guerrillas also pounded the Radio Afghanistan building and the Mikrorayon residential complex, where many Soviet officials and Afghan Communist leaders live, they said.

"The diplomats had no reports of casualties in the Bala Hissar fortress, which was hit by mortar and rocket fire from three separate points in the city, but they said smoke was still rising from the thick-walled compound on Sunday morning.

During the shelling, Afghan troops beamed spotlights and fired tracer bullets at guerrilla positions on a mountain near the fortress. The lower slopes are crowded with shanty-towns.

There were no details of casualties in Mikrorayon, where blocks of flats and local security police headquarters were also targets. Radio Afghanistan was hit by mortar fire, but did not appear much damaged.

The diplomats said travellers arriving from the south were subject to frequent searches and road blocks on Saturday, indicating that the Government had suspected guerrilla activity that night.

Two Afghan Communist Party members were shot and killed near the police academy on August 9, presumably by guerrillas, they added.

In another attack on the outskirts of Kabul, about a dozen men from the Defence of the Revolution militia were captured by guerrillas.

The village of Ghaza, near the resort town of Paghman, was bombed on Thursday night and Kabul residents reported that parts were still smoking and on fire the next morning.

10 Swiss seized from Ethiopia orphanage

Nairobi (AFP) - The kidnap by Tigre nationalists of 10 Swiss nationals, including six relief agency workers, occurred on August 3 at Jari, 280 miles north of Addis Ababa, it was confirmed here.

The six, accompanied by four relatives, were working at an orphanage set up several years ago by the humanitarian organization, Terre des Hommes. The staff at Jari was increased recently because of the serious drought affecting the Wollo region and the neighbouring provinces of Tigre and Eritrea.

It is the second time this year aid workers have been seized by the Tigrean People's Liberation Front, which for nine years has been fighting for the independence of Tigre in northern Ethiopia.

A dozen foreigners, most of them working for the Save the Children Fund, were abducted in April from Korem, about 65 miles north of Jari on the road from Addis Ababa to Asmara, the Eritrean capital. They were freed six weeks later after being taken across the Sudan border.

A spokesman at the Lusanne headquarters of Terre des Hommes said the organization had been in touch with the International Red Cross to seek the release of the Swiss.

The Ethiopian authorities, in line with their usual policy when "secessionist bandits" are involved, have made no comment.

Pravda reveals murder at sea

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Western shipping magazines, fearful of cutthroat competition from the Soviet merchant navy, may be comforted to know that it sometimes suffers from indiscipline, drunkenness and even the occasional mutiny.

According to *Pravda*, the recent murder of a merchant navy captain by his second mechanic on the Sea of Azov has lessons for the rest of the fleet.

Captain Levchenko was given the command of the *Sabirabad* two years ago. He was considered energetic, modest, friendly and communicative, except by Second Mechanic Zhabdenko, who was "a born troublemaker".

On his previous ships, *Pravda* said, Zhabdenko was constantly drunk or picking fights with fellow crew, and resented the fact that Captain Levchenko ran a tight ship.

The animosity was mutual, and when the *Sabirabad* was ordered to leave last April the captain sent a cable to the Azov shipping line asking for Zhabdenko to be transferred. Despite Zhabdenko's reputation the request was ignored, and when he came back he went from bad to worse, striking the second mate, attempting to jump ship and threatening the captain when rebuked.

The climax came when the *Sabirabad* docked at its home port of Zhabdenko - without a captain. A search had been conducted at sea, the crew told officials, but without result.

The finger of suspicion pointed at Zhabdenko, who at first denied everything but then admitted his guilt. He was cooking off watch, he said, when he spotted the captain and asked him to step on to the poop to talk things over.

Tempers flared, and Zhabdenko struck captain Levchenko on the head several times with a pair of pliers before throwing him overboard.

Pravda said Zhabdenko had been sentenced to death for murder, and accused the Azov shipping line of least paying enough attention to the selection and placing of personnel.

It said there were probably many more cases of drunken and insubordinate behaviour on board ship than came to light.

Chinese to feed pandas as bamboo famine looms

Peking (AFP) - China has allotted 300,000 yuan (about £100,000) to help feed pandas threatened by famine because their staple food, the bamboo, is in flower.

The English-language *China Daily* said the decision was made by Dr Yang Zhong, the Forestry Minister, who oversees 90 per cent of China's nature reserves. The pandas are threatened by a natural phenomenon that occurs only once every 50 to 60 years - the flowering and withering of bamboo.

About 1,200 pandas live in 12 reserves in China, 10 of which are in Sichuan Province, which will get two-thirds of the money. The largest reserve, Wolong in the Qinling mountains, appears to be the most affected.

A Sichuan nature protection official, Mr Hu Tingjing, said he expected the problem to be at its worst next winter and spring. Bamboo, sugar cane and other food has been sent to the reserves, although officials have considered moving the pandas to other areas or to zoos. *China Daily* said another, less desirable solution would be to build farms in the reserves where the pandas would be cared for.

Some 150 pandas died in a similar catastrophe in Sichuan some years ago. The most severely affected reserve was Wangland in the Minshan mountains where more than 90 per cent of the panda population died of starvation.

International plea: An international body regulating trade in wildlife products has urged China to tighten controls on the sale of giant pandas and panda skins (Reuters reports).

In a letter to the Forestry Ministry, the secretariat of the Convention on Trade and Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna expressed concern about reports that panda skins had been offered for sale by a company in Taiwan.

It said it had information that a panda skin was bought for £33,000 and imported into Japan.

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30-34	30-34	30-34	£83,181	£99,618	£133,833	not available
35-39	35-39	35-39	£82,478	£98,625	£127,826	not available
40-44	40-44	40-44	£81,714	£97,617	£121,847	not available
45-49	45-49	45-49	£80,984	£96,592	£115,873	not available
50-54	50-54	50-54	£80,288	£95,541	£109,903	not available
55-59	55-59	55-59	£79,624	£94,464	£103,936	not available
60-64	60-64	60-64	£78,991	£93,371	£97,972	not available
65-69	65-69	65-69	£78,388	£92,262	£92,011	not available
70-74	70-74	70-74	£77,815	£91,137	£86,054	not available
75-79	75-79	75-79	£77,271	£90,005	£80,202	not available
80-84	80-84	80-84	£76,756	£88,866	£74,352	not available
85-89	85-89	85-89	£76,269	£87,719	£68,502	not available
90-94	90-94	90-94	£75,809	£86,564	£62,652	not available
95-99	95-99	95-99	£75,375	£85,404	£56,802	not available
100	100	100	£74,966	£84,237	£50,952	not available

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SPECTRUM

Mayor Edward Koch, the flamboyant politician who keeps the New York show on the road, is having a tougher time these days with his increasingly critical racial minorities. Trevor Fishlock reports on his struggle

You're not doing so good now, Ed...

New York It is very hot in Harlem, even hotter in this second-floor room where bodies are packed closely together, squirming, wet-shirted and as sticky as fudge. Someone pleads into a microphone: "Cool it, brothers and sisters, cool it." Everyone is straining for a glimpse of the Chief New Yorker, Mayor Edward Koch. He's there in the thicket of cameras, lights and stick mikes. The people, mostly black, want to hear what he has to say and to make their own feelings known. They think Mayor Koch has some explaining to do. But it is no good. There are too many people, too much noise. A crowd clamours outside, feeling cheated and saying the affair is a sham. This is a congressional inquiry and the mayor is here with senior policemen to defend the city's police against allegations that they have a down on blacks and Puerto Ricans and handle them roughly. But the second layer of the matter is that the mayor's own racial and class attitudes are under scrutiny - and, by extension, so is the way he runs this monstrous and marvellous imperial capital. "The mayor is the biggest man in town, the guy who sets the tone", a black subway worker says, "and as far as we're concerned the tone around here is not good." The hearing has to be postponed to another day, to be moved to a larger room. The mayor is booed as he climbs into his car and people bang their fists on the bonnet. The mayor is not a man to be intimidated: he can stand the heat in the kitchen. But his natural ebullience is muted and he looks pensive. This is no time for his famous catchphrase: "How'm I doing?" He calls out those words all the time as he ranges New York, the best-known face in the city. It is also the title of a published collection of his aphorisms. "You're doing fine, Ed", the people usually shout back. Sometimes he answers the questions himself - "How'm I doing? Terrific!" - for Mr Koch fakes nothing, certainly not modesty. But in Harlem on this steamy day the answer to "How'm I doing?" would have to be: "Not so good, Ed."

The racial question has always been in the background of his six-year mayoralty. Many blacks and Hispanics think him unsympathetic to their difficulties: unemployment, poor housing, inadequate services, racism and diminished hope. Many white liberals agree with them. There is a perception that the Koch Raj favours the middle class and that it is, at least partly, responsible for developments changing New York, particularly the crowded golden core, the island of Manhattan, mainspring of finance, business, art and creative endeavour. What is happening is that the young and well-off are steadily colonizing areas once cheap and lower middle-class. Even on the dismal Lower East Side, where trembling marionettes of junkies buy their drugs, there are the beginnings of change. In the centre of this rumbling conflict stands Mayor Koch, popular with the majority, assertive, flamboyant and an unashamed champion of the middle class. "Sure I am," he said to me in his office in City Hall. "I believe in middle-class values, the work ethic, the revulsion against crime. From my first day in office I have said there is nothing wrong with being middle class. The middle class pays the taxes and provides the jobs which provide the services for the poor. Stomp on the middle class and it will leave. "But it's baloney to say I discriminate. Twenty-six per cent of the people here are below the poverty line and get 56 per cent of the budget. No city in the country gives so much. I am sensitive to the needs of all poor people, black or white. I was poor myself once." Mr Koch's life has been a classic enactment of the American dream. He was born in the Bronx in 1924, the son of Polish Jewish immigrants, and knew hard times in the depression. He worked in a shoe shop to pay his way through law school, served in the army in Europe during the war and, retiring as a sergeant, started a legal career. He entered liberal politics as a leading Greenwich Village reformer, was a civil rights worker in the deep South, opposed the Vietnam war, and was a Democrat Congressman for Manhattan for nine years. In 1977 he ran for the top job in American municipal politics and won with 48 per cent of the vote. By then his outlook had changed. John Lindsay, one of his predecessors, made friends with rich whites and poor blacks, but had neglected the white middle class. It was to this latter group that Ed Koch made a direct appeal. He was pro-capital punishment, and called for a crackdown on crime, cuts in public spending, and an end to racial quotas. He attacked "poverticians", a word his critics construed as blacks. He is no economic wizard and was fortunate to arrive in City Hall when New York's financial crisis, the bleak November of liberal belief in free spending on services, was already being reined. He had both Democrat and Republican support when he ran again in 1981, and won with 75 per cent, the highest popularity rating of any mayor. He is a bachelor with a full-time commitment to public service, an occupation he considers noble. He is a kind of metaphor for New York, being what many New Yorkers think they are: street-smart, abrasive, quick with a gag, confrontationist. His New York cadences are peppered with phrases like "it's outrageous", "baloney" and "schmuck". He runs the show and loves doing so, the best-known mayor of New York since Fiorello LaGuardia. He gave me this assessment of himself: "I am the best salesman this city has had for a long time. Even my enemies have to agree my personality has been helpful to the city. In 1975-77 people walked around with a handbag look and we were on the edge of bankruptcy. We've restored to New York the spark it used to have. I'm partly a cheerleader. I'm good at communicating complicated issues in a simple way. People know I'm financially and intellectually honest." (His salary is £73,000 a year and he makes public all his finances).



Mayor Koch looking down from the steps of his power house

Mr Koch is tenacious and determined and has a retentive memory for slights. He doesn't often forgive; he gets even. He says he does not get ulcers because he says what he thinks. His robustness and candour have rubbed for the wrong way.

The mayor thinks the Harlem inquiry is meant, partly, as a political stick to beat him. Chicago and Philadelphia have recently elected black mayors and many blacks think New York should have one. Although the proportion of blacks and Hispanics in New York has increased, so that whites are now 52 per cent of the population, black political influence has declined. The population of Harlem, for example, rose by a third in the 1970s, but the mayor did not compensate by putting blacks into top jobs, and this can be seen as a political error.

Carol Bellamy, president of the City Council since 1977, thinks the mayor's language and attitudes have created racial tension. "Mayor Koch is a smart man who wants to make the city better, and he is in many ways reasonable and fair. But his words and attitudes have created an impression that New York does not care, and his administration is not sensitive to blacks and Hispanics."

For Miss Bellamy, sharing City Hall with Mayor Koch is never dull. She is 41 years old, and, like the mayor, springs from a working-class background, is a lawyer, single and a devoted, full-time public servant.

Real power lies in the executive office of mayor, not in the City Council. But to some extent the Council president is a loyal opposition, and Miss Bellamy sees her job as being part of the checks and balances of the administration. As for Mr Koch: "I'm his sparring partner. He's not always right and someone has to take him on. We've had our spats."

New York is not quite the city it was: a million people left it in the 1970s. For many of them the difficulties were too much to bear. Taxes are higher, but services are reduced. The place is dirtier, the city bureaucracy is fat. The subway works, but it is old and ramshackle and, as the mayor says, "it stinks".

Mayor Koch says: "Did you know that Mass is said in 23 languages in this city? It's the diversity that makes it electric, that gives it a special intelligence, makes you think faster, walk faster, talk faster."

It is this diversity, of course, that helps to make the mayor's the toughest of jobs. Mr Koch says, in a politician's phrase, that he wants the poor to make it into the middle class (just as he did). But many of the poor are so far behind that they have difficulty getting on to the first rung.

The other day the mayor inaugurated a housing scheme for low-income people and got on well with the crowd of black people there. "Some people are trying to come between us", he told them. "Don't let them."

It was a serious Ed Koch speaking. He recognizes that his abrasiveness has upset people and can damage him politically. And he is contemplating the value of a more conciliatory approach for a New York mayor has to be statesman as well as executive. More than any other issue, the inquiry into the police has made Ed Koch ponder on the task of running his astonishing metropolis.



Carol Bellamy: sparring partner

moreover... Miles Kington

Late sports special

Next Sunday, Wembley sees the oddest invasion of all: the first game of American cricket ever staged outside the United States.

Hardly known at all in this country, American cricket is a fast-growing game in its home country, where it is also known as "the grenade game", from the extra points gained for knocking out a batsman. But Harvey Masbanger, who is promoting Sunday's big game between the Houston Tossers and the Seattle Maniacs, reckons that it could catch on in a big way here, especially as we have no summer game geared to violence, like soccer or rugby.

"The average cricket fan would undoubtedly recognize the similarity between the British game and its American cousin. The wickets are there, the white uniform is there and the red ball is there. Several of them, actually. But he would also notice striking differences, the first being that both teams are on the field all the time."

"This is because when the bowler releases the ball, the fielders immediately charge forward with the intent of stopping the batsman hitting the ball. This can be done in a number of ways, such as by tripping him over, making him even kill him. This is very rarely done because the batsmen, also, on the field, block the intruding fielders with crumpling body tackles. It's very impressive, very structured sight - the pattern to an expert are almost beautiful."

Is American cricket, as they sometimes say, a sporting equivalent of chess?

"Well, maybe. If anything, it tends to resemble that moment in a chess game when one player gets so furious that he sweeps all the pieces off the board - that's like American cricket. It's a very specialized game; of course, the batsmen who come on to field are not the same as those who bat, and even among batting batsmen there are those who specialize in hitting the ball, those who hit the bowler and those who pull up the wickets to attack the fielders if they get through."

Controversy still surrounded the 1,500-metre runner from Russia, Iif Simonov, who surprised everyone by coming last but one in his semi-final. He had been fully expected to come last. Simonov, a slim, peaty, slightly gamine figure, is not everyone's idea of the average Russian runner, not to put too fine a point upon it, many people suspect Simonov of being a woman. His previous results, which are uniformly disappointing, certainly bear this out. But as sex tests have always until now been applied to women, there is no way of finding out.

At the after-match press conference one daring American journalist asked Simonov if there was any truth in the rumours that he was not as other men, and perhaps more like other women. Simonov burst into tears and said he was interested only in building world peace, also in tennis, horse-riding and knitting, and that he wanted to open a boutique in Moscow after this was all over. As he was led away, dabbing at his mascara, another journalist managed to ask the Russian coach why on earth a woman would want to go in for men's events. To his surprise, the coach winked and said: "Why do you think?"

More shocks and surprises from the Americas Cup, the competition held to see whether America can change enough rules in their favour to keep the cup. The committee have ruled that Australia is not infringing the rules by having a series of champagne corks dangling by string from its keel, not indeed by throwing overboard a non-stop stream of empty lager cans during the race. The British complaint that the French boat had been fishing illegally in its waters was also over-ruled. A Canadian complaint was rejected because it was not bilingual.

Serious news, though, for the Latin American entry, Simon Bolivar. After a routine inspection for stowaways, the judges found a stash of cocaine worth over £3m hidden away in the bilges. This, of course, brings the weight of the boat over the permitted limit, and there may well be repercussions.

Late Results Arsenal XI 0, Hitchin Sales Reps 3 A South African XI 0, Not a South African XI 0

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 127)

A crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating starting positions for words.

- ACROSS: 1 Sympathy (6), 4 Abscond (6), 5 Solitude (6), 9 Labyrinth (8), 12 Surprise cry (3), 15 Schedule (6), 16 Overused expression (6), 17 Couch (3), 19 Delicious (8), 24 Militant (8), 25 Lively dance (4), 26 Standing position (6), 27 Stream (6). DOWN: 1 Select (4), 2 Weariness (7), 3 Derogatory (5), 4 Stumble (5), 5 Sodium compound (4), 6 Large farm (5), 10 Award (5), 11 Gropes (5), 12 Distraction (9), 13 Not closed (4), 14 Fish-hook point (4), 18 Not abridged (5), 20 Join (5), 21 Provide food (5), 22 N European (4), 23 Hill (4).

SOLUTION TO No 126 ACROSS: 1 Gator, 2 Sash, 3 Huffy, 4 Pungent, 11 Anarchy, 13 Opera, 15 Violino, 18 Aids, 19 Whodler, 22 Toppet, 23 Flein, 24 Jinn, 25 Treats. DOWN: 2 Uffit, 3 Tey, 4 Replacement, 5 Sans, 6 Flemp, 7 Frial, 10 Tash, 12 Roost, 14 Dile, 15 Yalant, 16 Waff, 17 Arant, 20 Least, 21 Beam, 23 Pie.

The shattering of a dream

At about 4 o'clock in the morning Fitz woke me. We washed quickly and sat for a few minutes drinking coffee, gearing ourselves up for the day ahead. I was feeling absolutely drained. For the past two years I had thought of little but this day and now it had arrived. We returned to the shop at about six that morning. The first of the cooks were already at work and the security guards were padding through the deserted floors. There was nothing we could do except check the cleaning once again and hope that the sales girls would arrive on time. By 8 o'clock the exhausted managers had dragged themselves back in and the first trickle of their staff began. As opening hour approached Fitz and I did a last check of the floors. Everything was immaculate. Behind each counter and till stood a nervously expectant girl. We were ready to go. We went down to the ground floor where the security guards were waiting to open the door. To our dismay we discovered that we had visitors. The directors of Dorothy Perkins, whom we had not seen for the past year while we were wrestling with the problems of the new store, were all there in their pin-stripe suits. Not only that, but Mrs Roxburgh, the wife of one of them, came too, with straw hat and white gloves. She looked as if she was going to stand at the door greeting the customers. When the doors opened, there was instant pandemonium. Almost immediately the tills were clattering and by the time we had retreated to the fifth floor, five minutes later, there was already a crowd around the snack bar. Feeling slightly dazed, we headed for Fitz's office. We were both tired out and wanted a few moments' peace. Seated at Fitz's desk was David Roxburgh, in high spirits, heroically explaining on the telephone to the Financial Times how he had performed to get the store open. Seated beside him in the only other chair was his wife. They looked at us as if we were intruders. Leaving them to it, we wandered back to the crowded sales floors.

Two years of planning and months of hard labour had turned the art deco department store that had been Derry and Toms into Big Biba. But even before the new venture opened, late in 1973, Barbara Hulanicki and her husband, Stephen Fitz-Simon, sensed the growing threat from the directors of British Land, the property company which now controlled the Biba enterprise. The subsequent struggle is described in the final extract from her forthcoming autobiography, From A to Biba.

"He just couldn't wait", said Fitz. But we were not to escape that easily from the self-appointed hero of the hour. About an hour later I was on the children's floor, worrying about the sweater stock that seemed to be going down awfully fast, when I was summoned back to Fitz's office, where the Roxburghs had made themselves thoroughly at home. A waiter had just been diverted from the fantastically busy restaurant to supply them with coffee, and two chairs had been placed in front of the desk for Fitz and me. There is something really degrading about having to sit in front of your own desk in your own office listening to someone sitting in your place.

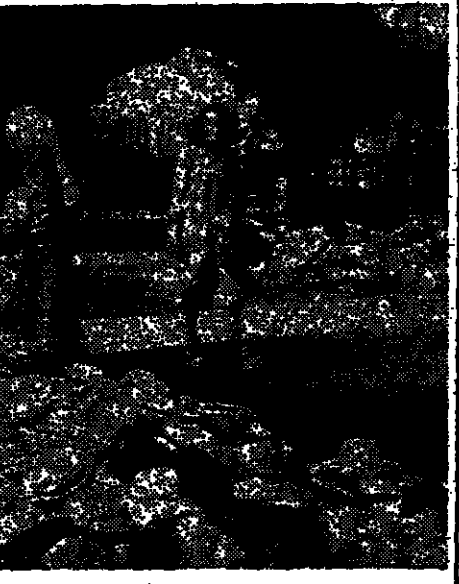
I couldn't believe my ears. I was being pushed out

Roxburgh started to expand on his grand theory. Biba was to be "institutionalized". I had no idea what he was talking about, but as he went on I gathered that this meant that I was to have very little to do in the future. My job was to be somehow, miraculously, split up among a whole committee of nameless people. I couldn't believe my ears. I was being pushed out before anyone had any idea of even the first morning's sales. A clerk put his head round the door and gave Fitz a piece of paper. I knew it would be the sales figure for up to 12.30. Fitz looked at the paper, showed it to me, and then handed it to Roxburgh, who had no way of knowing if the figure was good or bad. Fitz did nothing to enlighten him so in the end he had to ask. Before we open a new shop Fitz always writes down his sales

but at one stage I thought that Fitz was going to break his neck. In order to humour him, we said that we would go along with his suggestions. We agreed that there was not enough information to the public in the shop. We would have "Pay Here" signs and "Cash Desk" signs, but we wanted these done in a way that was right for the feel of the shop. To me it meant we could introduce neon all over the store, which had not been used since the 1950s, and I quite liked the idea. It was all agreed at the meeting, but Ritblatt and his merry men had no intention of allowing us any involvement. Next day a lorry arrived full of Tesco-like white light boxes to be put up all over the store. I felt sick. Very early in the morning before anyone arrived I went and jumped up and down on the whole lot. There wasn't one bit of usable white plastic left. It was time for me to go. I couldn't watch the destruction of that beautiful building. It was dreadful to feel so powerless. They could have it. As my parting gesture I ordered 5,000 fluorescent plastic buckets for the use of the ground floor. Let them work that one out, I thought.

It really hurt I still feel it today

Against my better judgment I was inveigled into one last meeting with the entire Dorothy Perkins board. What were they trying to do? Why couldn't they let me go? Roxburgh flaunted my contract in my face. We had two more years to go and after that we couldn't open a shop within 50 miles of London. All this time Fitz had been trying to raise finance to buy our business back. We couldn't have picked a worse time than the mid-1970s, with rising inflation. Most of the merchant banks had been pinched by the collapse of the property market, and London was full of ex-millionaires and people who knew Arabs. We came so close to doing a deal with British Land that after several weeks of hard negotiation Fitz set off late one afternoon for the final meeting when the contracts would be signed. There were several solicitors and other experts in the room and at literally the last moment a technicality arose that made the deal impossible. When Fitz returned that night we knew that time was running out. Fitz carried on for a while but I bowed



The end: customers and staff in the debris of the final sale

out after it was clear that we couldn't regain control, and left the store in the hands of British Land.

relationship with Roxburgh had now reached a state when it seemed to us that he would do anything to spite us. Fitz heard the rumour that British Land were negotiating with another company at Ritblatt's office. A lightning board meeting was called and it was announced that they had sold Biba. Cosmetics and trade marks to a financier called Dobson, who was front man for another property company. Roxburgh was furious that I was not at that meeting. He moved a formal motion that I should be censured for not being present, but I had no wish to give him the satisfaction of seeing me as he finally sold Biba.

Fitz rang me "We've lost", he said. "I'm coming home." In the past I sometimes imagined that someone had come and taken Biba away from me. After it happened, I came across a Biba cosmetics stand in Paris at a prêt à porter show. The stand looked awful and I longed to go and tidy it up for them. The man on the stand wore gold chains around his neck, his shirt looked cheap and tartan. The sales girl looked cheap and tartan. They were trying to imitate Biba but had got it all wrong, and there was nothing I could do about it except walk away. It really hurt. I still feel it today.

My own ambition in life is to buy back the bones of Biba and let the poor old girl rest in peace. ©Penguin Ltd 1983

Abridged from From A to Biba by Barbara Hulanicki, published by Hutchinson on September 5, price £8.95

مكتبة الأصل

WEDNESDAY PAGE

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

The wages of son is Darth

First the bad news: my daughter, having attained the age of five, reckons she is now in line for pocket money, and opens the talks with a rock-solid posture: "Eighty quid a day."



Now the worse news: my son has got a leak - I wonder where from - about the pay bargaining situation and has slipped in an admittedly moderate parity bid: "Eight pee and a cowboy sword."



My daughter cites Morgan Prewitt, that most unstable of six-year-olds, as a precedent in the cash grant controversy. He, I am told, is in receipt of "millions of pounds a day" to keep him in Darth Vader masks and all the other accoutrements of today's fighting child.

(1/6d a throw), but I quash my scepticism. Suddenly I am a Keynesian, and quite happy to spend my way out of trouble.

Better news yet: she has completed her first column, which I here quote in full: "Dear Giles, please come to my party next year. It has a certain frankness, I agree, but if that's 800 words, then I'm Joanna Lumley."

Still better: the Rillington Junior International has broken. The tiny tape, through which she has dribbled all manner of seditious prose, is sundered from the reel, and I cannot, in all honesty, fix the thing. She is "going up to The Times to complain".

The Junior Mint has arrived. I was expecting it to land with the portentous thud of new plant, but the thing has fluttered down on to the mat with the rest of the final demands.



Return from work to find the front room awash with pristine currency. Daughter husbanding same with the sinistrous glow of a self-made millionaire. Tremendous projections for spending in the public (ie. family) sector, starting with a major lido on the site of the old compost heap and a loft conversion to house "the next five babies".

Cancer is a disease that strikes fear into the hearts of everyone

Annette Gartland met one woman who is fighting it... and winning

Lynne Pemberton was told last winter that she had cancer of the cervix - the neck of the womb. This January she underwent a radical Wertheim's hysterectomy when the uterus, cervix, ovaries, fallopian tubes and lymph nodes in the area are removed.

The cancer sufferers you hear about are generally very optimistic and positive, she says. "At times I am, but I find it very difficult. I tend to be rather introspective and pessimistic, which colours my feelings about the future."

Her husband, Trevor, was also devastated. "We didn't talk about it in any reasonable way. We were too busy trying to comfort each other, just trying to let it sink in," Lynne said.

practice in Richmond, Surrey. The partners refused to accept her resignation and suggested that she should work when the coast was clear. "It is silly, but you think 'I've always been healthy, not terribly fit but eating sensibly, not overdoing anything, not drinking too much, so why should it be me?'"

Lynne had radiotherapy twice before the hysterectomy - an uncomfortable experience, but not frightening because it was so well explained. The worst part was when capsules of cesium which had been implanted under general anaesthetic and left in place for about 22 hours, were removed.

She had expected to suffer quite severe, sharp pain afterwards. In fact, she experienced discomfort when moved and felt extremely tired. She is glad to have declined her boss's offer to help pay for private treatment, which would have meant being in a room alone.



Lynne Pemberton with her husband: they married to give one another more support

have children. It is too early, she says, to consider adoption. "Even though they've given me the maximum possible chance of nothing else happening, I'm not really convinced. I have to tell myself that I'm likely to be around in 20 years time."

Lynne felt that everyone who dealt with, or looked after her was "really wonderful". She felt well-informed. But she believes there could have been more explanation about the physical reaction to a hysterectomy and perhaps some printed information about the operation.

How screen tests can save lives

Cervical cancer kills more than 2,000 women in Britain each year. Older women are more at risk as the disease usually takes seven to ten years, or more, to develop. But over the past decade the number of women under 35 dying each year from cervical cancer has doubled to more than 170.

It is not the most common gynaecological cancer, however. Cancer of the ovaries kills twice as many women. And, by comparison, 12,000 women die in Britain each year from breast cancer. Cervical cancer counts for four per cent of all cancers in women. In 1978 there were more than 4,000 new cases in Britain.

sexual partners or multiple venereal infections have a high risk of contracting cervical cancer. There is also evidence that there are high-risk males, according to Dr Dulcie Coleman, consultant cytopathologist at St. Mary's Hospital in London. Partners of women with cervical cancer often had other partners who developed the disease.

There is evidence of a link between cervical cancer and herpes. And scientists have discovered an association between genital warts and the cancer. British research has shown the DNA of a genital wart virus present in 58 per cent of patients with pre-malignant lesions of the cervix. There are, however, arguments that the wart viruses are not directly involved but merely passengers in cancer cells.

TALKBACK

Judging the shoplifters

From Mr Philip Joseph, Books Etc, Charing Cross Road, London, WC2. Quite correctly, Mrs Williams (Friday Page, July 22) asks for a more humane approach to suspected shoplifters but then goes on to request supermarkets to adopt greater willingness to assess a person's background before deciding to prosecute.

Among recommendations in the report, as a means to protect the sick and elderly from the experience of prosecution for shoplifting, is an alternative to the criminal charge of theft: "Taking goods without authority and without making payment".

Kill or cure? From John R Skyles, Denning Road, Hamstead. Joanne Bower (Wednesday Page, August 3) asks the question: where does one draw the line between animal experiments which are beneficial and those which are not?

Smokescreen From Rosemary Stephens, Albert Road, Clevedon, Avon. The letter from Helen Signy (Friday Page July 29) reminds me of an occasion some years ago in West Africa, when I was invited to visit an exhibition on dietetics.

If real men don't eat quiche it is a cert that not many will go a bundle on savoury ices either. But how about a Bloody Mary sorbet, icy, spicy and stunning? Or a snow of cucumber and creamy yogurt spiked - like that wonderfully refreshing Indian yogurt drink a salt lass - with fresh green ginger, spring onions and lemon juice?

THE TIMES COOK. Shona Crawford Poole. Prawns, Parma ham, sliced avocado, radishes and cucumber with sprigs of mint or basil. Then add a scoop of one or more of the savoury ices.

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more of the savoury sorbets. I shall be making the ices again in Harrods at lunchtime on Friday using a new ice cream freezing and churning machine from CTC called the Gelato Chef which makes easy work of ice creams and sorbets. However none of the recipes is any worse for being made the usual way. Bloody Mary sorbet. Serves four to six. 12 ripe medium-sized tomatoes. Juice of 1 lemon. 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce. 1 teaspoon sugar. Salt to taste. 4tablespoons vodka. Drop the tomatoes into boiling water for a few moments then slip off the skins. Discard the seeds and purée the flesh by pressing it through a sieve or processing it briefly. Combine the tomato pulp with all the remaining ingredients and freeze it, covered, until the mixture has the texture of stiff slush. Turn the partially frozen sorbet into a bowl and beat it vigorously. Return it to the freezer to freeze firm. Most ices need to be softened, or ripened before serving. This is best done in the refrigerator and may take from 15 to 20 minutes to an hour. Cucumber ice. Serves four to six. 1 large cucumber. 6 spring onions. Juice of 1 lemon. 150ml (1/4 pint) natural yogurt. 1cm (1/2 inch) cube peeled fresh ginger. Salt. 1 egg white. Peel the cucumber and discard the seeds. Purée the flesh in a processor or blender with the green part of the spring onions. Add the lemon juice and yogurt. Use a garlic press to squeeze the juice from the fresh ginger and add it to the mixture. Then season it to taste with salt. Freeze the pulp until it has the texture of stiff slush. Turn it into a bowl. Whisk the egg white to a firm meringue. Beat the cucumber mixture thoroughly then fold in the egg white. Return the ice to the freezer and freeze until firm. Avocado ice cream. Serves six to eight. 3 large, ripe avocados. 300 ml (1/2 pint) double cream. 6 tablespoons good mayonnaise. Juice of 1 lemon. 1/2 clove garlic. Salt. 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper. 2 egg whites. Purée the avocado flesh by pressing it through a sieve, or use a processor. Combine the avocado with the cream, mayonnaise, and lemon juice. Squeeze the garlic in a press and add the pulp together with salt to taste and the cayenne. Mix well and freeze until the mixture is a stiff slush. Turn it into a bowl and beat it thoroughly. Fold in the stiffly beaten egg whites and return the mixture to the freezer. When using a churn the egg whites are beaten lightly and added to the vegetable or avocado puree at the beginning of the freezing process. Avocado ice cream looks pretty served in tall wine glasses with a couple of un-peeled prawns hooked over the rim of each glass. Melon and wine sorbet. Serves four to six. 1 very ripe charentais melon. 110g (4oz) sugar. 300ml (1/2 pint) dry white wine. Purée the melon flesh by pressing it through a sieve or in a processor. Stir in the sugar. Stir the mixture from time to time until the sugar dissolves and add the wine. Freeze until the mixture has the texture of stiff slush then beat it vigorously and freeze until firm.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Home and dry

It is a pity that the appointment of Admiral Sir James Eberle as director-designate of the Royal Institute of International Affairs should start with a logistical lapse. I bet he runs a tighter ship when he takes over in January. As it was the announcement did not arrive until the embargo on it had passed...

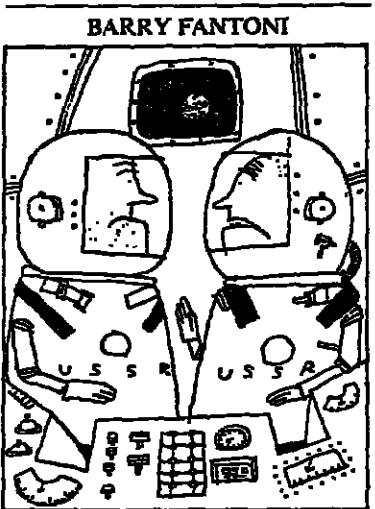
Bravo!

Before Sir Geoffrey Howe meets the Spanish Foreign Minister to discuss Gibraltar again next month, the Anglophile Spanish mayor of Palmas on the Costa Brava has come up with a novel suggestion. Dr Francisco Dalmau, who left Franco's Spain via Gibraltar in 1941 and served with the British army from Normandy to the battle of the Ardennes, says we should return Gibraltar to the Spaniards at once.

I see from the Royal Engineers' Journal that recent additions to the RE Museum include an RAF inflight/transit meal offered during flight from Falklands, presented by Major S. C. L. Hobden. I suppose he did not fancy it.

Interval

At the closing concert of the Three Choirs Festival in Gloucester Cathedral on August 27, Julian Lloyd-Webber will be playing a piece by Vaughan Williams not heard in public for 53 years on an instrument not known to have been played in public since 1909. His revival of the Fantasia of Sussex Folk Tunes, played by Casals when Vaughan Williams received the Royal Philharmonic Society's gold medal in 1930 and never performed since, happens to coincide with his first performance on the Barjansky Strad, for which he recently paid £192,500 at Sotheby's. The instrument was sent for auction by anonymous owners after a long sojourn in a Brussels bank vault.



High dudgeon

Lord Parmoor is incensed that police have seized books on the cultivation of cannabis and psilocybe mushrooms under the Obscene Publications Act. This, Parmoor says, is flagrant and dangerous abuse of a law which was never intended to cover horticulture, a topic more easily distinguished from pornography than would be, for example, Liberalism. Parmoor takes the SDP whip in the Lords, but regretably has no plan to pursue his argument there. Though he succeeded to his title in 1971, he has yet to make his maiden speech.

Here is another announcement. On an internal flight of Nigerian Airways, Peter Lennan Jones heard: "We are now approaching Lagos airport. The captain and crew wish you a safe landing."

No wall painting

Frances Draper, a west London painter, tells me she portrayed Nicholas Freeman, the leader of Kensington and Chelsea Borough Council, standing in front of the half-ruined Kensington Old Town Hall. She wrote to Freeman offering him the picture for £400. He replied, thanking her, but requesting that modesty forbade him displaying pictures of his achievements on his office wall. The letter, at least, was more prettily turned than the wreckers' ball sent in to do the damage.

Among the predictions ascribed to the Royal Society of Medicine in the Omni Future Almanac, coming shortly, is the conquest by 1985 of tension and anxiety, and by 2000, of sorrow. I hope it is sooner rather than later with aggression control, because according to the book, the countries capable of launching nuclear strikes by that time will include, in alphabetical order, Argentina, Cuba, Iran and Libya. PHS

Will the great survivor do a deal?

Harare Joshua Nkomo's third and shortest political exile has ended in return to his native Zimbabwe and to a series of political and personal problems which are no more resolved than when he fled across a remote stretch of the Botswana border in March.

Now, as then, Mr Nkomo's Patriotic Front party stands accused of fomenting insurrection in the troubled western province of Matabeleland. The rift between his supporters and those of Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, is as wide as ever. Nothing visible has been done to put the poor personal relations between the two men on a level of better understanding, and possible police charges which Mr Nkomo believed were a threat to his liberty are still on file.

At the time he fled Zimbabwe he had been questioned by police about his allegations that government forces, motivated by political and tribal antagonism, had in January and February systematically slaughtered Ndebele peasants in the territory which makes up Mr Nkomo's political power base. Although that claim has since been widely echoed by church and voluntary organizations it was indicated then that Mr Nkomo might be charged under the Law and Order Maintenance Act with bringing the authorities into disrepute.

It is difficult to imagine a

As Joshua Nkomo faces the Zimbabwe parliament after his return from self-imposed exile in Britain, Stephen Taylor asks if he will now allow Robert Mugabe his one-party state

It must be highly questionable whether the elder statesman of Zimbabwean nationalism, who turned 66 in exile and appears to have added pounds to his portly frame in London - has the energy or will to contribute much to further political developments. There is some acceptance, even in Zimbabwe now, that Mr Nkomo has no control of the Matabeleland guerrillas whose cause the government has accused him of secretly sponsoring. In fact Mr Nkomo is rejected as a "sell out" by those who have taken up arms, however haphazardly, in the cause of Ndebele nationalism and there is probably no individual who could call in the guerrillas from the bush. Dumiso Dabengwa, a former Zipsa commander acquitted of treason in April, is sometimes mentioned in such a role, but the martyrdom he has gained among the rebels because of his continued detention would soon evaporate if he cooperated with the government.

What Mr Nkomo still has that Mr Mugabe might want is the authority to agree a merger between their parties. The Prime Minister has frequently stated in the past that such a step is necessary on the road to his goal of one-party rule. Mr Nkomo's objection was probably the primary cause of the rift between Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) and the Patriotic Front in 1982. Having initially paid lip-service to the suggestion, he balked when it was put in earnest, fearing that he and the party would be submerged. The basis for further talks has been revived in Mr Nkomo's absence with meetings between three-man committees of each party which started in April, although nothing substantive has been established.

Privately, some Patriotic Front members confess their belief that "Father Zimbabwe" is a spent force important politically only if he is able to achieve conciliation with Mr Mugabe. But respect for Mr Nkomo's place in the history of the nationalist struggle here embraces not only his supporters but some quarters of Zanu (PF) too. Age and the ability to survive adversity carry weight in African society and Mr Nkomo is nothing if not a survivor. An unlikely tribute came recently from the Rev Ndabani Siphole, his main political rival until the rise of Mr Mugabe, who said of Mr Nkomo's exile: "Kenya might as well have rejoiced if Jomo Kenyatta had had to flee Kenya for personal safety."

Marking the spot for the axe

I trust that Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, is enjoying a restorative holiday. For when he returns to work next month he will need to have his faculties and resilience about him. Early autumn, the season of the public spending review, is always the climax of the Chief Secretary's year, and 1983 promises to be as tough as any. Last week Lord Carrington denounced the Treasury's perennial search for candle-ends. "These continual percentage cuts," he told the watching world on Channel 4, "do infinitely more damage to what you are trying to do in terms of reasonable saving." The title had come, he thought, for the Treasury and the Government generally "to look at cutting out a function in government rather than cheese-paring on the things that really are essential."

I'm sure the Treasury would say "Amen" to that. Patching together an adequate total of economies from the margins of a thousand individual programmes is not only infinitely more time-consuming and temper-fraying than the achievement of a similar saving through the complete withdrawal of government from a handful of activities. It also given the human propensity of the Civil Service to protect its own employment - bears disproportionately on the capital expenditure side of the accounts. Contrary to the assumption of the critics elsewhere in Whitehall, the Treasury would infinitely rather have it otherwise.

The trouble is that functions for sacrifice are not exactly volunteers. The former Foreign Secretary was particularly indignant about the economies he had been required to make in the BBC's overseas services. Would he have preferred to see the Foreign Office subsidy totally withdrawn? That would certainly have "cut out a function," but with Lord Carrington's cheerful acquiescence? I wonder. Off the cuff, I can think of only two "functions" eliminated in the last Parliament: the Price Commission and exchange controls. Nevertheless, I am sure that Peter Rees should heed Lord Carrington's counsel - if he can. Before the holidays the Cabinet reportedly agreed in principle to hold next year's spending to the figure of £126,000m - written into Sir Geoffrey Howe's last White Paper. Even this, it is reckoned, will need £5,000m to be lopped from current departmental plans. Last year a similar agreement in principle was translated into an actual standstill with surprising ease. But on that occasion it was found possible to trim the "contingency reserve" - the central piggy bank - and to assume that departments would understand their allocations. I rather doubt whether that trick could be turned again with easy credibility.

So where is Mr Rees to turn? One suggestion has already met with little approval: that of a "one-off" cut in the proportion of unemployement benefits should be trimmed. This one smells of trouble.

Why the Hungarian success story is not for export

Budapest To be Hungarian is to be a member of a secret society, a central European freemasonry protected from intruders by a language as obscure as anything heard in Babel. Budapest intellectuals brag that the most efficient organized crime network in New York is run not by Sicilians but by Hungarians; no undercover agent, no enterprising G-man can penetrate the scramble of Finno-Ugric vowels.

Yet, with the persistence of pilgrims, planners from other communist states - from Warsaw to Peking - have been trying to decipher the secrets embedded in the Hungarian success story. Does market socialism work? Is it possible to satisfy consumers without weakening communist control? Is the Hungarian model exportable? Will economic reforms snowball into a political liberalization movement? The shops are the message; those in the centre of Budapest are experimenting with industrial reforms that smack of the Hungarian model. The Poles see Hungary as the correct direction for their own attempts to decentralize the economy and even the Czechs are looking over the fence, enviously monitoring their neighbours.

Almost by default, Hungary has become the showcase of the communist bloc. Economic reform - the broad label for less planning, greater focus on the market - has been the subject of debate for decades, notably by Polish economic philosophers such as Oskar Lange. In Prague the call was taken up briefly by economists such as Ota Sik who believed that there could be a third way between the uncertainties of the market (unemployment, the neglect of the

workers) and the inertia of central planners. Hungary was the only country to follow through. It began tentatively after the 1956 uprising against the Russians. In 1957 profit-sharing was established, compulsory delivery quotas in agriculture were abolished and industry was relieved of the need to submit monthly reports to higher authorities. Over the next year, workers' rights to share in factory profits were expanded and formalized and in 1968 the Hungarian leadership introduced the New Economic Mechanism. This shifted power from the centre to individual factory managers. Investment decisions to a large degree were left up to an individual basis with the West was established, as was the right to retain a large part of profit. Small-scale private enterprise was encouraged (owners are allowed to lease part of their factory space to produce goods after hours that can be sold privately) and prices were designed to move up and down to reflect relative scarcity.

In short, welcome to capitalism. The model has done much of what it set out to do: growth rates increased steadily, the standard of living was high and Hungary was regarded as a useful partner by many countries in the West. It became a member of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other capitalist clubs. But to make a socialist economy sensitive not only to domestic but also western customers entails a degree of vulnerability to international trends. The western recession has hit Hungary - shown above all by its liquidity crisis last year - and it is suffering from flagging demand for its industrial exports, lower prices for its food exports, energy shortfalls, debt servicing difficulties and a growth in national income this year that will be scarcely enough to cover the losses in foreign trade.

Yet none of these problems invalidates the Hungarian reform on the contrary they have shown its strength. Inflation, for example, is about seven per cent, but unemployment is still manageable. So far the vices of the West have been kept at bay. But to transfer the Hungarian

"miracle" to other communist states is a dangerous business. What appears to be minor flaws in the malleable Hungarian system may well be magnified a hundredfold when the methods are adopted, say, by Poland. Hungary has an efficient agriculture, can feed itself; this still cannot be said of most communist countries. It has no tradition of worker unrest in the manner of Solidarity, its Catholic Church is not a platform of criticism, its leader, Janos Kadar, has no clear rival. Hungary is not China; its bourgeoisie has never really gone away, its mercantile instincts have never been repressed, not even in the darkest Stalinist years. But there is one more reason why other communist states should think twice about grasping at the straw of the Hungarian model. The Hungarians have understood that economic and political reform are inseparable: now, slowly and timidly, they are trying to change their political structures to align them with the economic climate. The Hungarians have strengthened their trades unions (which now have the veto right over measures directly affecting workers), will introduce a



Well fed, well dressed, Saturday shoppers in Budapest, the communist capital with a Parisian sense of style

greater degree of choice in local elections (without, they hope, weakening Party control), will strengthen the importance of their parliament. The formal changes may be accompanied by informal changes - above all greater freedom of the press.

Hungary can, after 15 years of economic reform, afford to risk a further political relaxation. But can Moscow? Can Prague? These two formulae seem to be that of cautious edging towards economic change - but keeping tight ideological control on the country lest something nasty creep out of the wood shed. In the Kremlin it may well seem that economic reform plus political repression adds up to orderly change. In Budapest they know that this is not so: reform tempered by repression is a contradiction in terms, a recipe only for further stagnation and factional infighting.

In a modest, genteel sort of way the Hungarians explain this to their fraternal visitors, but the language of market socialism, like that of Hungarian, is a difficult one for orthodox Marxists.

Roger Boyes

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Marking the spot for the axe

I trust that Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, is enjoying a restorative holiday. For when he returns to work next month he will need to have his faculties and resilience about him. Early autumn, the season of the public spending review, is always the climax of the Chief Secretary's year, and 1983 promises to be as tough as any. Last week Lord Carrington denounced the Treasury's perennial search for candle-ends. "These continual percentage cuts," he told the watching world on Channel 4, "do infinitely more damage to what you are trying to do in terms of reasonable saving." The title had come, he thought, for the Treasury and the Government generally "to look at cutting out a function in government rather than cheese-paring on the things that really are essential."

I'm sure the Treasury would say "Amen" to that. Patching together an adequate total of economies from the margins of a thousand individual programmes is not only infinitely more time-consuming and temper-fraying than the achievement of a similar saving through the complete withdrawal of government from a handful of activities. It also given the human propensity of the Civil Service to protect its own employment - bears disproportionately on the capital expenditure side of the accounts. Contrary to the assumption of the critics elsewhere in Whitehall, the Treasury would infinitely rather have it otherwise.

The trouble is that functions for sacrifice are not exactly volunteers. The former Foreign Secretary was particularly indignant about the economies he had been required to make in the BBC's overseas services. Would he have preferred to see the Foreign Office subsidy totally withdrawn? That would certainly have "cut out a function," but with Lord Carrington's cheerful acquiescence? I wonder. Off the cuff, I can think of only two "functions" eliminated in the last Parliament: the Price Commission and exchange controls. Nevertheless, I am sure that Peter Rees should heed Lord Carrington's counsel - if he can. Before the holidays the Cabinet reportedly agreed in principle to hold next year's spending to the figure of £126,000m - written into Sir Geoffrey Howe's last White Paper. Even this, it is reckoned, will need £5,000m to be lopped from current departmental plans. Last year a similar agreement in principle was translated into an actual standstill with surprising ease. But on that occasion it was found possible to trim the "contingency reserve" - the central piggy bank - and to assume that departments would understand their allocations. I rather doubt whether that trick could be turned again with easy credibility.

So where is Mr Rees to turn? One suggestion has already met with little approval: that of a "one-off" cut in the proportion of unemployement benefits should be trimmed. This one smells of trouble.

to me. No doubt it is true that the present level of benefits do deter some potential job-seekers. But the "why-work" syndrome "leads to back-peddling" as present levels of unemployment and there is surely some force in the argument that those in work can reasonably be expected to maintain through taxes the living standards of those less fortunately placed. Above all, though, the resulting net saving would be quite disproportionate to the row it would create.

We all have some favourite candidates for the axe. For my part I have always regarded the subsidies given to capital-intensive industries and the like, which would either go ahead without them or which would only add to over-capacity, as peculiarly silly. But that is chickenfeed at best.

In the end the Treasury has got to look to the big battalions - and that means defence and social security, which together account for not far short of half the total.

Thanks to the commitment to Nato's 3 per cent "real" growth target - and the Falklands - defence spending has been growing faster than any other programme apart from social security. And, as President Reagan has discovered, high spending on defence immensely complicates the task of finding acceptable economies elsewhere. The 3 per cent commitment still has another year to go, which will make it difficult to bring out much next year. But I was delighted to read in Monday's Times of Nigel Lawson's resolve to block its renewal. He might remind his colleagues that it was none other than that great warrior Winston Churchill, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, who devised the best curb on military appetites - the "no war for 10 years" formula - in the 1920s.

When you turn to social security the real nightmare is the cost of pensions. I don't begin to know the answer. Since the principal cause of all the trouble is simply that we are all living longer, the logical solution would be to raise the pensionable age. Against the current background of unemployment, that does not look easy. But it does disorganize the value of the pension from the cost of living index. And while the only other radical solution - to raise the scale of contributions to the National Insurance fund - might increase the room to manoeuvre with taxes, such a switch would hardly impress anyone. There is no very good reason why it should.

Still, the long-term cost of retirement is, or ought to be, an essential part of the true study of government, and it is good news that the Prime Minister is not being put off by the sort of scare stories that such scrutiny of basics invariably provokes. Not that that is going to be much help to Mr Rees this autumn.

The author was Chief Secretary to the Treasury in Mrs Thatcher's last government.

Peter Lennon

A sure thing for the petropunters

Dublin The warning by the Irish Minister of Industry last week that the prospect of oil in abundance could "take too firm a grip on people's imagination" came too late. The people were already spending their imaginary petropunters and staking their future on this glorious potential windfall. As a reader writing to the Irish Times suggested, Ireland had found a new kind of unity: "We are all loyalists now," he declared.

Few ordinary people are ever likely to see any of the lolly from this, the 73rd and first commercially promising offshore drilling operation, although, by playing the Stock Exchange, a few of the more florid have added some millions to their hoards.

But there is something therapeutic in counting wealth you are never going to have. Minds with no bent for mathematics are becoming cunningly astute. As the projected oil flow rate grew from 2,642 barrels a day to 6,467, and then to 10,000, and natural gas made an appearance, it became imperative for conversational stylists who had been decorating their talk with knowing references to step-out wells, Jurassic oil-bearing sand the young-Cretaceous fields to try to calculate the real value of the discovery.

Since so many factors are totally unknown - the size of the field, for example - this was a problem which, if they were at school, would have had them fingering their maths exam papers from them in disgust. But someone devised a system that leaves Petropunters looking like a one-plus-one beginner. The trick is to subtract all foreign partners from the affair, leaving only the Irish companies; then you look at the price of their shares, and estimate from those the amount of oil that must have been found to justify them. No self-respecting punter would allow you to arrive at the odds on a horse that way, but oil clearly is a special case.

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Mr Falconer is an undertaker. His

Bernard Levin at Bayreuth, part 2

A sand-blast and polish by a master

Manfred Jung. The trouble with Jung is the same as the trouble with Siegmund Nilsgaard, the chosen Wotan we know the furthest of which they are capable, and there was no chance that either would stand up to us, as Hildegarde Behrens did with her Brünnhilde. So the search continues for the two other legs of the tripod on which every Ring must stand, and it is a measure of the plight in which Wagner conductors live that among the names being bandied about for Siegfried was Plácido Domingo; why, if I had offered to sing the part myself I could have found a dozen people willing to put me on their list before the end of the interval.

In addition to Behrens, who sang with an amplitude and beauty of tone that made it difficult to believe that this was her first Ring, there were only two really outstanding voices: Aage Haugland as Hagen and Jeanette Ahmeyer as Sieglinde, praxine actress for a future Brünnhilde herself. Not enough; all now rested on Soliti's shoulders. His reading was fast (at the end of Act I of Götterdämmerung I thought my watch must have stopped, for he took only 1 hr 50 mins, which may be a record), yet although it was full of intensity and force it never seemed hurried, so perfectly paced was it. The spring of nervous energy in Soliti's Wagner is now completely flexible, a servant not a master, and the consequence is that it is impossible to imagine better conducting in the Ring that he has given us here, or for that matter better playing than he succeeded in drawing from the invisible orchestra.

Rheingold, the Ride, the Götterdämmerung chorus, Wotan's flight to his last sister, the murder of Siegfried - but they never seemed, as they so often do, like separate bits of washing on a line; the great span of Soliti's conception held everything in place, everything balanced, everything organic. And he knew when to slow down, the invocation to the unborn hero as Wotan leaves the fire was echoed by the trombones with majestic deliberation, and "Ruhe, Ruhe, du Gott" was like the placing in position of the final stone of a tomb.

It is impossible, I know, to convince anyone who does not love Wagner's music that it is lovable; either you feel that when you hear it, or it is not for you. I travelled to Salzburg with my friend Count Alois von Vorschitz-Stufe, for instance; the Count is a passionate and profoundly knowledgeable Mozartian, but he declined all suggestions that he should come on to Bayreuth with me. To change his mind, I played him a bit on the way; he listened attentively for about a quarter of an hour, then said in measured tones "It's all very interesting, but when does the music start? It is useless to talk in these circumstances, of the unbroken thread of melody, of the orchestra as the chief voice of the way in which the themes are continuously transformed; we know what secret it is that the others do not share. I told the Count, when he begged me to explain to him just what it was that I got out of Wagner, that it was as though every bit of my mind, my body, my psyche and my soul had been unscathed, sand-blasted, polished for 36 hours, bathed in the most expensive eau de cologne, put together again and gift-

wrapped, knowing all the while that those who have not experienced it will not understand, and those who have experienced it will not need to understand. And very rarely indeed have I felt the experience as I just have in Bayreuth.

The greatest coup was in the final bars of Die Walküre. For Act III, Hall and Dudley had reverted to the tilting platform that has unfortunately become standard for productions of the Ring in recent years. (The Valkyrie sisters had to be anchored when it swung vertically, and Brünnhilde, poor girl, was at one point strapped upside-down beneath it, waiting - for two and a half minutes - until it turned right over and allowed her to get her circulation back.) When the platform first appeared, a groan of protest seemed to order, but it was stifled on my lips, and indeed I was unable to make a sound of any kind, by what happened just before the curtain fell.

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مكتبة الامم المتحدة



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GOING PRIVATE

A few years ago Mr Benn promised this country a "massive and irreversible shift" in the location of economic power. Today there is, indeed, the prospect of an important change in the pattern of ownership and control. It could well be massive and may prove irreversible. But it will be very different in character from that intended by Mr Benn. Instead of more nationalization and socialization, many industries now in state hands are to pass into private ownership.

At present comment is focused on the proposed sale of 51 per cent of British Telecom. In this instance there is one dominant supplier and no declared intention of changing the position. Critics have asked, with reason and force, what purpose is served by converting a publicly owned monopoly into a privately owned one. There is a danger that, by failing to think through the purpose of privatization, the Government may become entangled in a protracted debate about British Telecom and so lose momentum in other areas.

Two kinds of privatization need to be distinguished. The first is the sale of state assets in an industry where there already are - or, at least, potentially could be - several competitors. The second is in the contrasting circumstances where, for technological reasons, there can be only one supplier. There is a powerful case for privatizing natural monopolies - such as British Telecom - which come into this second category, but it is less obvious than the case for privatizing competitive industries. The economic aspects, in particular, are most clear and persuasive when competition prevails.

If there are many suppliers of a good or a service, rivalry between them ensures that output will expand until a point is reached at which price matches the extra cost of production. As a further increase in output beyond this point would lead to lower prices and higher costs, the suppliers would suffer losses. So the further increase in output does not take place and instead resources are allocated to another industry where, once again, competition will establish the right balance between prices

and costs. It follows that public ownership is unnecessary. Market forces and private enterprise generate a socially optimal outcome if they are left to themselves. This outcome, known technically as marginal cost pricing, has been blessed by generations of textbook writers and is about as uncontroversial as any large principle in economics can be.

The real world is more complicated than textbooks and practice has a habit of overwhelming theory. But there should be no doubt that the basic ideas in the standard description of the competitive process are right. Nit-pickers may want to add refinements, qualifications and provisos. But they cannot deny that most of private industry is profitable, that much of the nationalized sector is unprofitable and that losses are incurred by nationalized industries because, in certain operations, costs are conspicuously above prices. If these industries were in the private sector, the marginal operations would be closed down and the resources they employ would become available for more worthwhile activities.

As it happens, the greatest potential gains from privatization do not come in new and growing industries, such as British Telecom, but in old industries where loss-makers have been tolerated because their deficits are covered by profits elsewhere in the business or by subsidies from the Exchequer. Perhaps the most glaring example of this kind of inefficiency is the National Coal Board. The recent Monopolies and Mergers Commission's report showed how unprofitable mines are kept in production and their losses met by surpluses earned in efficient mines. Coal-mining is certainly not a natural monopoly. For most of its existence the British coal-mining industry has been in the hands of several independent companies and, even today, this remains the normal state of affairs in other countries. On economic criteria the case for privatizing coal and splitting the industry into several units is far less controversial than the case for privatizing British Telecom.

The strength of competitive forces depends not only on the number of suppliers in this

country, but also on an industry's openness to imports from abroad. On this basis British Steel, British Shipbuilders, Rolls-Royce and British Airways are definite candidates for privatization. In all five cases the main obstacle is an unsatisfactory commercial record in recent years, a consideration which is thought to preclude the introduction of private capital. It deserves to be emphasized that what matters in privatization is the ultimate benefit to the community. In these cases the benefit consists largely in the elimination of loss-making activities. If unsuccessful businesses were transferred to private hands at nominal prices and their new managers restored them to health, the ultimate result would be much better for society than if they were to stay in government ownership and lose money indefinitely. The unprofitability of a nationalized industry does not alone justify the deferment of privatization.

The case for privatizing competitive industries is, therefore the same as the case for competition. When a competitive industry is artificially contained in one enterprise and that enterprise is publicly owned, managers lack the discipline imposed by shareholders. As they believe that the state will, in the final analysis, cover their losses, there is a temptation to enjoy a quiet life by maintaining too many unprofitable operations. The perpetuation of unprofitable operations is evidence of resource misallocation and economic inefficiency. When nationalized industry managers take a more robust attitude and try to close down loss-makers, they are frequently hampered or prevented by politicians, responding to special lobbies and pressure groups, and an often exaggerated idea of the social benefit conferred by maintaining loss-making industries, which does not occur in the private sector.

So both economic and political arguments favour a programme of thoroughgoing privatization in competitive parts of the economy. The rationale for privatizing natural monopolies has a much larger political content and perhaps understandably causes more disagreement. It will be examined in a later article on this page.

Counting the cost of motorways

From the Chairman of The Conservation Society

Sir, The extinction of the natural flora and fauna of this country in order to build motorways and other developments diminishes the environment permanently; the developments exact a real, if unquantifiable, "opportunity cost" of indefinite duration in order to provide what may well prove to be a very short-lived present benefit.

Perhaps, therefore, the public sentiment noted by Michael Baily (report, July 29) which "supports those who champion the butterfly preservation rather than 'roads'" has a sounder basis than the general tone of his article suggests.

The real objections to motorway building, however, are far more substantial and have been put many times by this society and other environmental groups without, unfortunately, making much impact on policy.

They are: firstly, that building more roads tends to encourage the growth of even more traffic, rather than the other way round; secondly, that increasing our national dependence on oil, which is the inescapable effect of increasing road traffic, is likely to prove unfortunate, if not downright dangerous, in a relatively few years when diminishing oil supplies impose severe price increases if not physical shortages; thirdly, that encouraging private road traffic depresses the provision of public transport, both by road and rail, to the deprivation of the 50 per cent of the population which, for various reasons does not possess its own car, and finally, that increasing road traffic causes intolerable congestion, pollution and environmental degradation in urban areas, which motorways do nothing to alleviate and much to exacerbate.

Comparisons with other countries are misleading. They mostly have greater distances between towns, smaller population densities, and a smaller network of secondary roads. Hence this country must formulate its own transport policy to suit its own present and expected future circumstances.

It makes sense to try to shift as much traffic as possible from road to rail to relieve road congestion, make better use of presently under-used assets, and above all, to preserve a greater range of options for the future.

It makes no sense at all to continue sacrificing scarce land and irreplaceable amenity in a vain attempt to build sufficient roads to avoid all congestion. The ability to build roads is not one of the fundamental democratic freedoms. If congestion occurs, motorists can and do learn to live with it.

In all probability shortages of oil and other commodities will solve the congestion problem within the foreseeable future. Why cannot we look ahead, for a change, and learn to adopt a sustainable life-style which is not prone first to hardening of the arteries and later to pernicious anaemia?

Yours faithfully,
R. D. HARRISON, Chairman,
The Conservation Society Ltd,
136 Goldington Road, Bedford.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Churches' role in world politics

From the Acting General Secretary of The British Council of Churches

Sir, Thank you for your critical, yet sympathetic leader (August 10) on the World Council of Churches. The Church at every level needs loyal friends who are also unsparring critics.

There is, however, a contradiction at the heart of your critique. You rightly warn the WCC of the serious sin of becoming an end in itself. Yet that is where your recipe would lead. You ask the WCC to devote itself more single-mindedly to the task of restoring Christian unity.

True, Christian disunity is the Church's Achilles heel. It is a scandal because a disunited Church cannot effectively serve a spiritually and physically broken world. To this world Jesus, quoting Isaiah, says "I have come to bring good news to the poor, release to captives, to let the broken victims go free."

That is why the WCC is right to make the unity of the Church, to have spoken on Afghanistan (and probably wrong not to have spoken more strongly), right to combat racism, right to plead for economic justice, right to condemn an arms race that kills hungry children and threatens to destroy God's creation.

The danger is not, as you suggest, that the WCC is out of touch with "the ordinary Christian." It usually speaks only too eloquently for the world's ordinary Christians, most of whom are neither well-fed, white nor western.

That is why the average British churchgoer is so disconcerted. We cannot easily get used to being one of the world's minorities. I can attest to that personally. At home my views have been left wing. Abroad, more often than not, I find myself somewhere to the right of centre. The WCC's problem is that it is very close to the global centre yet its task is to reflect Jesus, his Lord, and not necessarily its membership.

The Church has no real choice. The world's agenda must always be its own agenda. But on God's terms. We to a Church that avoids the social, economic and political issues of its time. Each of them is also a spiritual issue. Only by facing political conflict can politics be transcended and healing be brought to the world.

The treasure hunt for antiquities

From the Chairman of the Antiquities Dealers Association

Sir, Mr Tatton-Brown (August 1) is absolutely correct in saying that many antiquities seem these days to command over-inflated prices, e.g. the recently sold Celtic horse harness mount from Buckinghamshire at £34,000, plus buyer's premium. However, before attacking the auction houses and "peddlars of and dealers in antiquities" he should first identify where his friends are.

Many antiquities in this country, to which he is largely referring, are actually found by chance, as against being "looted" (his words), or have pedigrees of residence in collections here. The Antiquities Dealers Association (ADA) was set up just over a year ago in an endeavour to combat many of the ills in the "trade". Many of its members bid for or supply material to numerous museums and work in close cooperation with them, often assisting in background research as to provenances, etc.

Mr Tatton-Brown's "two-pronged attack", the first against treasure-hunters and the second against dealers, is a little lopsided. ADA very much supports the first "prong", hence its endeavours to introduce, among other things, a system of registration of pieces, but on the second "prong" he attacks himself and the work of his colleagues.

ADA has been accepted as an affiliated institutional member of the Museums Association, the Council for British Archaeology, especially its director, Dr Henry Cleere, has been most helpful and interested in the formation of ADA and important discussions will shortly be in train between both bodies. Not least, the previous Minister for the Arts, the Right Hon Paul Channon, has similarly expressed his interest "in this development in the antiquities world" - the formation of ADA.

The members of ADA agree with and subscribe to, via their code of conduct, much that Mr Tatton-Brown propounds, except that they are loath to find themselves upon his second "prong", uncomfortable as it will be, it will also mean that many museums will lose good friends, information and, not least, acquisitions that they might well otherwise not be aware of.

Yours faithfully,
PETER A. CLAYTON, Chairman,
Antiquities Dealers Association,
c/o B. A. Seaby Ltd,
Audley House,
11 Margaret Street, W1,
August 8.

Future of Alliance

From Sir Harold Beeley

Sir, I fully agree with Edward Mortimer's rejection (August 9) of the view that the Liberal-SDP Alliance should attempt "to destroy and replace Labour". But his conclusion that the Alliance should be offered Labour the prospect of a centre-left coalition seems to me quite unrealistic.

As the Labour Party moves further to the left it surely becomes increasingly inconceivable that, with the short-term objective of preventing the prolongation of Conservative government, it would collaborate in a reform of the electoral system, the result of which would probably be to preclude for ever the fulfilment of the Party's more revolutionary dreams.

Farming methods

From Mr George Gibson

Sir, Defending modern farming practices, Mr Watson and Mr de Salis (August 6) commit at least two errors. Mr Watson doesn't appreciate that British farmers still supply only half the grists for British bread. The Government has recently sunk £14m "pump-priming" in a "Food from Britain" campaign that couldn't produce a loaf of bread in its lavish display of provender at last month's Royal Show.

Mr de Salis overlooks the dire trend in the EEC, led by Britain in this instance, for modern, highly capitalized methods to throw workers out of jobs, thus impoverishing rural life. In 1958 20 million of the workforce in the present EEC Ten worked on the land. Now this number has dwindled to 8,700,000, or 8.2 per cent of the total force; in Britain the proportion has wasted to about 2 per cent.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE GIBSON,
14 Woodland Rise,
Greenford,
Middlesex,
August 6.

Qualified for the job

From Mr Keith Nickol

Sir, I express no view as to whether the alleged "infiltrators" at Cowley car plant disguised the extent of their qualifications for political reasons or not.

It is, though, in my certain knowledge that if a degree holder applies for a job he or she is often rejected as being over-qualified. If they do manage to get a job and their fellow workers find out they have a degree they are often not accepted, however good they are at their jobs.

Degree holders have as much right to a job as anyone else. It is quite wrong to assume them to be politically motivated if they apply for a job as a hospital storeman I was asked searching political questions. It never seemed to occur to the interviewer that I was simply jobless seeking a job.

Yours sincerely,
KEITH NICKOL,
17 Tredegar Square, Bow, E3.

Press in South Africa

From Mr Alan Locke

Sir, I purchased your newspaper August 1 (\$1.50), to peruse the current events in South Africa and to put aside as a memento of my young son's birthday.

I see Donald Woods is still at it! He states, apparently with a straight "face", that the South African press is not free. We all agree, but self-protection against subversion, while on the extreme side, is a natural tendency and the South Africans are correct in their desire to preserve some semblance of order in the middle of chaos.

The press is not free in the United Kingdom, either - as Mr Woods could well inquire of your own paper or, indeed, the *Financial Times*.

I have often wondered why the gentleman in question did not have the courage of his own convictions and become a journalist in, say, Uganda or Burundi - not run to the arms of white so-called democracy in England, and snipe.

He could do with a dose of black "rule", as I have experienced, or, better, five years on black-growth food in Angola or Mozambique. He would then run to South Africa as so many blacks do - not run away.

Most sincerely,
ALAN LOCKE,
35094 Dorchester Court,
Lakeshore Park,
Newark, Ca 94560,
USA,
August 6.

Body and mind

From Professor P. Armitage

Sir, Even those who, like myself, are sceptical of some of the claims made for alternative medicine will welcome the support given by Ruth West and Brian Inglis, in the third of their articles (August 10), of controlled studies to compare conventional and alternative therapies.

Many of us find it difficult to enquire about systems of treatment with a weak theoretical basis and little convincing evidence of effectiveness. The latter requires more than mere anecdotes of individual patients' experiences.

Fortunately, the principles of comparative clinical trials are widely understood, although their extension to the comparison of conventional and alternative therapies will require a more generous degree of cooperation from the practitioners on both sides than has usually been evident.

This pragmatic approach to the evaluation of therapy is unfortunately discouraged in your rather

Sloanes at Exeter

From Mr Owen Hughes

Sir, What a pity that Professor Ted Wag (report, August 8) shows his anti-university school prejudices to get in the way of the truth when he relates an incident at his own university.

The Exeter University Federation of Conservative Students did indeed hire a white Rolls-Royce as a counter-protest during a day of action, in an attempt to show that at least Conservative students need no more in grants from the Government.

However, the "leading lights" of the Exeter FCS are not the public-school "coves" that Professor Wag speaks of. No, like any loyal Tory Party organization, they have responded to Mrs Thatcher's initiative and have ruthlessly purged all the west public-school types who, in their year, have set up exclusive dining clubs and Tory reform groups from where they snipe at the Tebbitte FCS.

Yours faithfully,
OWEN HUGHES,
10 Peatonrow Close,
Fleet,
Aldershot,
Hampshire,
August 9.

RETHINK ON THE RHINE

The defence review now in progress has considered British strategy outside the Nato area, but has yet to contemplate the political and military tangle on Nato's central front. It would be tempting to the cost-accountants in the defence world to assume that the Falklands crisis was a national aberration; but most strategists know that it is always the unpredictable event which occurs first. Moreover the very strength of Nato's central front, upon which the security of the United Kingdom ultimately depends, has induced Soviet outflanking manoeuvres and proxy operations in many other trouble spots throughout the world. It would be an unwise general who failed to guard his flanks and rear, and that precaution should be the basis of Britain's evolving strategy, particularly since it should coincide with a financial need to question the undue fixation with Nato's central front which has turned Britain's Rhine Army into a strategic untouchable.

Britain's overall contribution to Nato far exceeds that of her allies, both financially and in terms of the range of military capability. Any sensible basis of cost sharing, and operational burden sharing, would see that the British contribution should be concentrated in the maritime area, while the continental forces would come mainly from West Germany and its neighbours. Instead we have the West German Navy, which should anyway concentrate its skills on the Baltic, wasting resources acquiring an Atlantic capability, which is already met by the British and, to some extent, by the Dutch.

There is no operational logic in the strategy of forward defence in West Germany, which

is persisted with for political reasons which now need reevaluation. The consequence of this is Britain has no flexibility about the deployment of her army-in-being, which is predominantly bogged down guarding every forward inch of a sixty-three kilometre front. That front would be more appropriately defended by West German forces who defend the rest of the line: The British Corps could then be positioned as a tactical reserve for the whole of Northern Army Group.

There would be two advantages in such a change. The first would be that it would dissolve the tactical rigidities imposed on Nato's military thinking by the forward defence strategy. The second is that Britain could then make perfectly legitimate savings in the cost of her standing contribution to land forces in Central Europe without affecting the day-to-day order of battle which has become such a political obsession within the Alliance.

A smaller Rhine army, held as a tactical reserve, would obviously call into question the British command of Northern Army Group. That is a dispensable appointment, not least because there would then be no one-over-one relationship between HQ BAOR and HQ First British Corps. There should be further savings in headquarters costs which, at the rate of £10 million per 1,000 men, is always to be desired.

The political and military consequence of Britain's ceding the command of Northern Army Group would be to expand the authority and influence of the Bundeswehr in Nato's councils. That is only right, in view of West Germany's preponderant contribution and critical geo-

graphical position. It would be resented by Belgium and The Netherlands. It could lead to the withdrawal of their units from West Germany, but, though that would be a pity it could not be held to make any serious difference to the likely order of battle in an emergency.

It is true that the Federal Republic has always been coy about assuming too preponderant a role within Nato. Even now its leaders complain that demographic difficulties may restrict West Germany's ability to maintain its army at today's strength. Nevertheless it is only if West Germany is prepared to alter its military strength that any more than marginal difference can be made to the military equation across the Iron Curtain. If the West Germans want the forward strategy to be maintained, in spite of its illogicality, perhaps they should be prepared to put their men where their mouths are.

It is time that West Germany and her allies recognized the reality of German power and adjusted to it. She is no longer a genuine junior partner in the Alliance. Indeed it has become an unnecessary paradox that the most powerful country in Europe should participate in an Alliance in a way which confers superiority on her less capable and poorer allies. The penalties imposed on those allies by the formulae devised in 1954 should now be changed so that there is a more efficient distribution of forces within Nato. Only then will the Alliance be organized to maximize its defences. That is the fundamental truth of the matter which the British Government should pursue through all the diplomatic thickets which have concealed it for nearly thirty years.

Nigerian students

From Mr N. G. Joseph

Sir, Those who have experience in dealing with Nigerian students will find the reported statement of the officials of the Nigerian High Commission unconvincing (*The Times*, August 2). The most common reason given for non-payment of fees by the students is the restrictions, as well as the long bureaucratic delays, in releasing the necessary foreign exchange. Yet the High Commission officials deny this.

The concern of the educational institutions and hostels about the £3m owing by the Nigerian students is understandable. What is less well known, and should cause us equal concern, is the undeserved privations and problems these young people suffer, with perhaps consequent ill effects on the quality of their work and health.

While any approach made to the Nigerian High Commission for any assistance receives a polite response, I found their scope for speedy action is limited. Lack of information is not the real cause of this, as the High Commission officials claim, but a lack of a definite policy.

One suggestion worth considering is to get a financial guarantee, supported by the Nigerian Government (even in the case of private students) before admission is given to students for any course of study.

Yours faithfully,
N. G. JOSEPH, Warden,
Chester House Hostel,
1 Chester House,
Pages Lane,
Muswell Hill, N10.

Planning by default

From Mr Michael Cross

Sir, The demise of economic and physical policy thinking and planning is to be viewed with great alarm. Your leading article, "A plan by any other name" (August 8) highlights the madness of planning by default.

Buried within this no policy/no planning philosophy lie elements of the belief that state involvement of almost any kind hinders and possibly prevents economic initiative taking. Is this really the case?

Surely the state plays a vital role by providing the physical, social and technical infrastructure upon which the economy can develop. For

Intimations of mortality

From Instructor Captain M. A. Waller, RN (Retd)

Sir, It was Egypt. He was trying to sell me a rug. I was resting. He outlined its virtues at length ending, "Sir, it will last you a lifetime." He stopped short, looking at my white hair, turned and walked away laughing loudly.

Dammit! I'm only 67.

Yours appreciatively,
M. A. WALLER,
Encanto,
Combe St Nicholas,
Chard, Somerset,
August 8.

Missing the point

From Mr Robert Mason

Sir, Near here there is a street mainly of small hotels and bed and breakfast places. One of the few privately occupied houses has a prominent notice in the window: "We are not a guest house." Next door there is an equally prominent notice: "But were a guest house."

Each time I pass I have to resist the temptation to ring the bell and ask "Yes, but what are you now?"

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT MASON,
44 Sussex Square,
Brighton,
Sussex,
August 13.

THE ARTS

Nobody has done more than Channel 4 to raise the status of the television film, an achievement recognized by the establishment of a special section for such work at the Locarno Film Festival. But Channel 4 reacted strangely to Locarno's offer to fly the flag, as John Bowen reports

Picture palace for the home
The new element at the Locarno Film Festival this year was the inclusion of a special section devoted to television films. Of course there are plenty of television festivals (Monte Carlo, Venice, Banff) with categories for almost every sort of television, but Locarno is the first to recognize that a new artform has arrived, the television film, and that its proper place for display may be at a film festival.

was set up as a replacement, with four months to organize and the comparatively small budget of 50,000 Swiss francs.
The television movies had to be obtained quickly, and what is quickest is not always best. Entries for Monte Carlo and Venice are chosen corporately after much discussion. Locarno had to go to production companies and ask for entries before a deadline. There were 92 entries from 21 countries, but even so those from Argentina and Egypt arrived after the deadline, and the Australian entry is thought to be still on the way.

Both were shown as BBC entries in the programme. It appeared, therefore, as if the BBC had put in two films, both adaptations from literary sources, both set at the beginning of this century, both very painterly pieces of image-making, both moving at a leisurely pace. The duplication suggested that the BBC was making a statement about the nature and aims of its television drama, which is simply not true.
The 92 films could not all be shown in competition; no jury would tolerate so many. An ad hoc panel whittled them down to 18 in competition, 53 shown "for information". With such an unselective entry-process, there was inevitably much dross, even in competition where *Ivanhoe* was shown to a surrational of stifled giggles from jury and journalists.



Katharina Thalbach in the stylish black-and-white symbolism of *Domino*

for television are more interesting and important than those made for a collapsing film industry. I hate the depressing grammar of some television movies... the English tendency to love the word more than the image. Alvin Marill's "A television movie is something which must be made quickly on a budget of between one and two million dollars. It must be designed to be split into 17-minute segments, geared to presenting its stars, not what the writer wishes to say, and will be considered by the networks as a potential pilot."

competition as a supplement to the jury-entries will continue, and there will be the facilities of a market where independent producers will be able to show video-cassettes in private to possible buyers.
"Television movies" is not a derogatory description. It is likely that millions more people will see of television those films just shown in the Grand Piazza - *Vivement Dimanche*, Truffaut's slipshod homage to Hitchcock, the almost sinfully enjoyable danced Spanish version of *Carmen*, the sado-sentimental *Merry Christmas*, *Mr Lawrence*, in which David Bowie gives his Peter O'Toole in a Japanese prison camp. Channel 4, alone in Britain, perhaps alone in the world, has begun to reverse the process, and we must hope that next year at Locarno it will acknowledge as much, and be proud. As Gian-Carlo Bertelli said: "To go to somebody who makes wine, and ask for wine, and then they will not give you wine, there is no sense in it."

Theatre
Arden of Faversham
The Pit

Based on a realistic cause célèbre of 1551 and written about 40 years later, *Arden of Faversham* is one of the British theatre's earliest thrillers. Combining suspense and black humour - the murder is seven false attempts, stretching from the first act to the last - it reveals itself in performance as much better written than its solidly end-stopped film suggest to a reader.
Its author remains unidentified. It is quite unlike Shakespeare or Marlowe and the strange mind that came up with it must rest content to be known as major figures in art history are as the *Mastie* of *Arden* and no more.
Terry Hands's production gets through it in barely two hours (no interval), with Kaitis Cook's set creating the bourgeois solidity of Thomas Arden's Faversham house with a canopy of branches overhanging furniture and floor of bare wood. Murder attempts by Arden's adulterous wife even extend to his London lodgings. Alas, making this a truly local Barbican play, but he finally meets death at his own Kentish fireside and the corpse is dragged to a patch of his own ground, greedily possessed from smaller landowners.
The motif of Arden's avarice,

Concerts
ECYO/Abbado
Albert Hall/Radio 3

The annual choice of 140 players from 4,000 applicants for the European Community Youth Orchestra makes the successful candidates something of an individual élite from the outset. The final programme of their summer tour brought them to a Promenade Concert for the first time on Monday, and showed that Claudio Abbado, the musical director since the scheme began six years ago, can turn them into a true ensemble more quickly than already.
But there was scarcely a thing in Schiff's playing that could be deemed unmusical, and there is the satisfaction so many of us variations sounded simply beautiful, and one came to accept with happy equanimity the spangled chords and oddly drawn-out phrases.
Schiff played every repeat, even in the final aria, and invented some ingenious ornamentation at places I would hate thought full of notes already. Sometimes the repeats just gave an excuse for a rather loose expressive broadening; twice, in 7 and 19, he transposed up an octave, and once, in 18, down an octave as if for a consort of bassoons.
The canons (which provide Bach's sub-pattern of articulation, occurring every three variations) were splendidly clear, though No 9, the canon at the third (with its expressive touch of B-A-C-H in part two), was surely gabbled too well. Best of all was the deeply musical shaping of the most showy variations, 14, 20, 23 and 28; brilliant.

Opera
Don Giovanni
Coliseum

English National Opera begin their new season with a *Don Giovanni* in spruce condition on stage and orchestra magnificent; the promise is bright. John Stoddart's cavalier costumes and versatile timbred sets are lit by Roger Fifth in a sequence of gorgeous nocturnes, within which the Anthony Besch production has been revived most ingeniously and intelligently by Peter Foster. Movement is easy and elegant, and made without any banal choreography of the action, to fit well with the pace and feeling of the music.
When nothing is needed to happen, nothing happens. But otherwise the opera is gently led forward in a way that allows musical numbers to emerge naturally from the behaviour and positioning of the characters.
In the middle of the second act, for instance, Don Ottavio

Law Report
August 17, 1983

Law v National Greyhound Racing Club Ltd
Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Slade [Judgment delivered July 29]
The purpose of section 31 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 was to regulate procedure in relation to judicial review, not to extend the jurisdiction of the court. It put into statutory language, with modifications, what was in Order 53 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, which introduced reform in the practice and procedure relating to administrative law. Section 31 did not purport to enlarge the jurisdiction of the court so as to enable it to review the decisions of domestic tribunals.
The House of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by the defendants, the National Greyhound Racing Club (NGRC) from the dismissal by Mr Justice Walton on May 10 last (*Times* May 16, 1983) of their application to the High Court for an order of mandamus, prohibition or certiorari, and for an injunction to restrain the NGRC from taking any steps to enforce their racing licence.

Court of Appeal
No judicial review of domestic tribunals

On December 9, 1982 the plaintiffs attended and decided that he had had in his charge a greyhound which on examination showed a presence in its tissues of substances which would affect its performance. They suspended his training licence for six months. The plaintiff had challenged that decision in his summons.
In his Lordship's judgment such powers as the stewards had to suspend the plaintiff's licence were derived from a contract between him and the NGRC. That was so for all who took part in greyhound racing in stadia licensed by the NGRC.
A stewards' inquiry under the NGRC rules of racing concerned only those who voluntarily submitted themselves to the stewards' jurisdiction. There was no public element in the jurisdiction itself.
Consequences affecting the public generally could flow from the decisions of many domestic tribunals. In the past the courts had always refused to use the order of certiorari to review the decisions of such tribunals since their authority was derived solely from contract, by agreement of the parties concerned.
Consequences affecting the public could only proceed by way of a claim for damages or for relief by way of a declaration or an injunction. The old case of *The King v Bencher of Lincoln's Inn* (1825) 48 ER 855 was no authority to the contrary.
Mr Henderson had submitted however that section 31 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 had given the court jurisdiction to entertain judicial review of the proceedings of a domestic tribunal if, as in the present case, those proceedings were likely to have consequences affecting the public generally. He based his submission upon the use of the word "shall" in section 31(1) and the terms of subsection (2) of the Act.

Court of Appeal
Law Report

December 9, 1982 in so far as they purported to suspend the plaintiff's licence was void and ultra vires the stewards' powers in that the action amounted to a breach of the implied term of the agreement between the plaintiff and NGRC that all actions taken by the stewards which could deprive the plaintiff of his licence would be on reasonable grounds.
The NGRC tried to persuade Mr Justice Walton that the plaintiff's claim was misconceived because he had any valid complaint about the way the stewards had treated him he should have applied for judicial review. They failed.
They had tried to persuade the Court of Appeal that, on the correct construction of section 31 of the Supreme Court Act 1981, when a domestic tribunal was alleged to have made, in abuse of its powers, a decision which affected a member of the public generally, the plaintiff had to apply for judicial review and could not succeed by way of an action or an originating summons for either a declaration or an injunction.
In a judgment of the Court of Appeal on October 16, 1981, in a restrictive practice case unsuccessfully brought against the NGRC, Lord Justice Lawton referred to the NGRC as a limited company whose objects included acting as the judicial body for the discipline and conduct of greyhound racing in England, Wales and Scotland.
Of 107 greyhound racing stadia in Great Britain 48 were licensed by the NGRC, the remainder were unapproved by it. A principal objective of the rules of the NGRC was to achieve an orderly and viable method of conducting greyhound racing in England, Wales and Scotland. The NGRC licensed, among others, race courses, race courses, excursions, trainers and owners.
The NGRC issued rules of racing and had appointed stewards who had no financial interest in greyhound racing to enforce them. Trainers of greyhounds racing at licensed stadia themselves had to be licensed and if their licences were suspended they could not act as trainers during the period of suspension.
One of the malpractices the stewards had to deal with was the doping of greyhounds. The rules gave the stewards power to do so by imposing penalties, including suspension of his licence, upon any licensed trainer who, under rule 174(a)(ii) "has in his charge a body which, on examination... shows presence in its tissues of body fluids... any quantities of any substance which by its nature causes effect the performance of a greyhound."

Zanily musical
Andras Schiff
Queen Elizabeth Hall

One could write a small book about the stimulating, infuriating but oddly satisfying performance of Bach's *Goldberg Variations* given at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Monday.
Among contemporary pianists Andras Schiff may not have the most virtuosic manner, but he thinks enough for 10 pianists, and that is a gift to be prized. When he comes up with some seemingly zany notion - like ignoring Bach's own articulation of the 30 variations into the groups 1-15, 16-30 - you may be sure he has a deliberate plan in view.
He took us from 1 to 10 with scarcely a breath's pause, and then reached a huge climax; he made a similar climax in Variation 20, but suddenly ploughed straight on to 22 before taking another pause. Similarly, the character of each variation was clearly premeditated, even when, perversely, it reached as far as possible away from a harpsichord sound (the drowsy spinning-wheel of No 28) or from Bach's clear intention (the slow, misty

Galleries
Lucien Pissarro
Anthony d'Offay

not. Painting was something else again.
This the story told by the absorbing exhibition *Lucien Pissarro: Paintings*, at Anthony d'Offay until Saturday, and by the sumptuous *Catalogue of the Oil Paintings of Lucien Pissarro* by Anne Thorold which it accompanies (Athelney Books, 400 copies, £80), is one of gradual liberation. The earliest works in the show, such as those painted at Enghien in the 1880s, are rather like Camille; at his least appealing, oddly heavy, sludgy and over-worked. The landscapes came slightly when Lucien moved to England, and again such pleasingly exotic subjects for a French painter as *Shanting at Acton* (1907) still

Concerts
Mer, Coney Castle of 1919

absence of guile that gave a convincing intensity to the *Death and Transfiguration* tone-poem of Strauss, and even made the effulgent *C major* of his fulfilment a desirable place to end. Wagner's *A Faust Overture* at the start of the concert also converted yearning to aspiration with admirable directness.
Natalia Gutman brought a strangely matter-of-fact approach to Schumann's Cello Concerto, her fine-spun tone seldom rising above mezzoforte even where otherwise called for, and often relying on a sotto voce effect that left the music sounding bland and emotionally pallid. With reduced orchestration the balance was successfully preserved, though at some cost to the musical character.
Everybody seemed to be mustered for "The Death of Tybalt" from Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* as a vivid first encore. I missed the second, having by then become immersed at the antics of a hall steward who ruined the quiet start to the Webern by his late door-closing, as he likewise did the equally soft ending to the Strauss by opening up every door to the street some 10 bars before the music finished.

Concerts
Mer, Coney Castle of 1919

recall Camille's evocations of English railway scenery, and a touch of Monet in a subject like *A Foggy Morning, Morlaix* does not much alter our image of heavy dependence.
Yet curiously, in his woodcut book illustrations, both black-and-white and colour, Lucien had by this time for several years been producing something distinctively his own - possibly because here there was no competition with the father, and so no sense of inevitable inferiority. It seems to be only more than a decade after Camille's death in 1903 that the inhibition gradually relaxes, and Lucien's oils get more and more easy and personal.
A painting like *Brume de*

Concerts
Mer, Coney Castle of 1919

John Russell Taylor
A painting like *Brume de*

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Mer, Coney Castle of 1919

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MARKET REPORT

Shares touch new peak

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Aug 15. Dealings end, Sept 2. Contango Day, Sept 5. Settlement Day, Sept 12.

The stock market opened at a new peak yesterday, at 735.2 on the FT 30 share index, beating Monday's level by 2.4 points, but the fall of American markets to follow suit yesterday evening brought in profit-takers and by the close the index was unchanged at 732.8.

Once again it was left to company news and speculative bids to provide the day's interest. Better-than-expected profits from Unilever and Royal Insurance gave leading equities a good fillip and were not for the fact that many of the FT 30 share constituents are trading ex-dividend the new peak could have been sustained.

Unilever closed 45p to the good at 795p while Royal firmed 23p to 556p in sympathy. That gave other leading insurance shares, particularly Saxon Oil, a boost of 10p on average.

The lack of US buying followed-through from Friday and Monday caused ICI to drop to 542p and Glaxo, now 20p per cent US-owned, at 839p lost most of Monday's 30p gain.

The warm weather brought buyers into breweries where Bass firmed 11p to 335p while

in stronger stores Sainsbury was 13p to the good at 403p. Yesterday's star performer, the gilt sector, lacked any following-through and prices were generally 1/2 to 1/4 lower.

Oil shares were once again the busiest sector. Monday's Saxon Oil, with North Sea interests, looks to be turning into the sector's favourite takeover target. Having sought off Clyde Petroleum, company sources said that a bid of 350p from Carnegie has just been rejected. Saxon Oil has risen up from 188p over the last few weeks and steadied at 230p. More action is expected.

Brae field oil find boosted Hamilton 7p to 224p, which stimulated interest in Sea Oil at 265p. Kammals at 396p and Sovereign at 292p, all 10p to 35p better.

In contrast, Irish oil explorers lost some of their recent

glamour rating. Atlantic Resources fell 20p to 457p while Eglintown fell 15p to 275p. The old takeover chestnuts were once again being revived. English China Clays jumped 12p to 216p on bid hopes. Leadhite executives denied building up a stake in Riley Leisure, still holding a 15p gain at 196p, as a prerequisite to a bid.

The big stake sale by Sterling Guarantee of its 4 per cent BEI holding dampened bid hopes there. BET fell 7p to 258p. Sterling Guarantee, still trading as Town and City, held the new 45p peak.

P & O was still attracting buyers on hopes of a merger with Sterling Guarantee. It was 2p better at 218p.

Stock shortages in secondary equities caused all kinds of price distortions. Ellen Road Mills jumped 34p to 75p on speculative hopes, but the directors knew of no reason for the jump.

In the USM sector Ede Isolates was up 17p to 206p while Renishaw at 245p held a 30p jump this week. Both gains struck in an attempt to pull in sellers.

Helene of London, which is subject to regular bouts of

The minority shareholders of BL must be enjoying the current strength of the shares which closed 6p better at 68p yesterday having touched 80p on Monday. The main idea behind the firmness is that they will receive preference on any privatization of Unipart or Jaguar. Another important consideration is the big discount they get on any new car purchase.

takeover speculation, firmed another couple of pence to 25p on rumours that it is about to announce a rights issue to fund an acquisition. A tie-up with store group Banners was being mooted.

The market has drawn a long list of counter bidders against Norcor for UBM. This, and the prospect of a strong defence against Norcor's 107p offer, pushed UBM shares 4p higher to 123p. Names range from Ready Mixed Concrete to Hanson Trust. The offer document from Norcor is expected early next week.

Racal was unchanged at 484p after yesterday's annual meeting. The chairman, Sir Ernest Harrison, said that the Racal Milga Data Communications operation would show a distinct improvement this year after a disappointing performance last year. Analysts expect these factors to combine with reduced interest charges to produce a pretax profit in the present year of about £140m against £114m last time.

The civil engineering company, Whessex is attracting some very important stakeholders. Hard on the heels of Sir Robert McAlpine's private investment company Newarthill's 16 per cent stake comes Angling Securities, which has bought another 50,000 shares, taking its stake to 500,000 shares or 9.4 per cent.

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FT Index 732.8 unchanged FT 100 Shares 463.74 up 0.4 Singapore 23,458 Datsun USA Index 103.01 up 1.07 New York Dow Jones Average 1,192.89 down 0.61 Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,019.07 down 1.23 Hongkong Hang Seng Index 1,037.72 down 9.52 Amsterdam 151.2 down 0.5 Sydney AO Index 680.8 up 7.4 Frankfurt Commerzbank Index 954.8 up 1.5 Brussels General Index 131.17 up 1.16 Paris CAC Index market closed Zurich SKA General 294.0 down 0.7

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5085 up 1.60 cents DM 2.8635 up 0.1 DM 4.0175 down 0.0325 FrF 12.08 down 0.925 Yen 367.25 down 1.50 Dollars Index 128.5 DM 2.8635 NEW YORK LATEST Sterling \$1.5080 ECUE0.564871 SDRE0.700537

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rates 9 1/2 Finance houses base rate 10 Discount market loans week fixed 9 3 month interbank 9 1/2-9 3/4 Euro-currency rates: 3 month dollar 10 1/4-10 1/2 3 month DM 5 1/2-5 3/4 3 month Fr 15 1/2-15 3/4 US rates: Bank prime rate 11.00 Fed funds 9 1/2 Treasury long bond 102 1/2-102 3/4 ECSD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme Average reference rate for interest period July 6 to August 2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am \$419.75 pm \$420.50 close \$422.25-\$423 (\$280.50-282) up \$4. New York \$420.50 Kruggerand (per coin): \$435-\$436.50 (\$289-290) Sovereigns (new): \$98.50-\$99.50 (\$65.50-66.25) *Excludes VAT

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Bulgin Group, Bypass Road, Barking, Essex (8.00). Charles Hill, Park Hall Hotel, Goldthorn Park, Wolverhampton (noon). Mountview Estates, Regent Palace Hotel, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (noon). Uniflock Holdings, Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moor-gate Place, EC2 (3.00).

TODAY

Interims: Gaskell Broadloom, Derek Bryant Group, Glanfield Lawrence, Horizon Travel, Olvas Paper Mill, Pihcom, Southern Stadium. Finals: Calcutta Electric Supply (India), ML Higgs, Scottish English and European Textiles, Victor Products. Economic statistics: U.K. Gross domestic product, Output based (second quarter). Indices of average earnings (June), Indices of basic rates of wages (July).

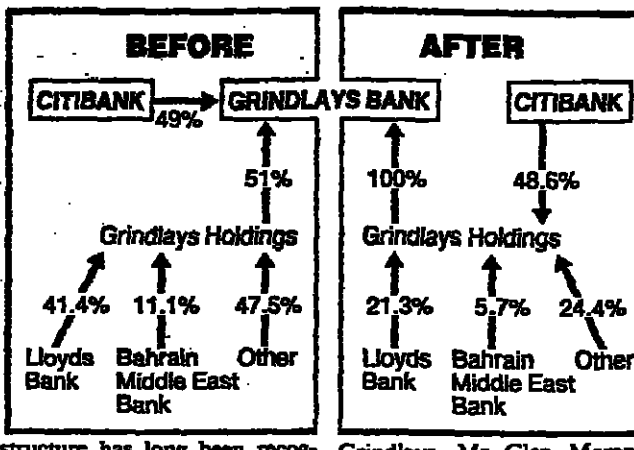
NOTEBOOK

While awaiting a response from BHP to Mr Robert Holmes & Court's bid, the markets have begun to assess the reasons for the offer. A small percentage of BHP shares would transform Wiggins into a takeover vehicle. Unilever did better than expected in the second quarter and the shares jumped 45p to 795p. Full-year profits could be comfortably ahead of 1982. But the West African market is still troubled. Page 14 John Waddington, manufacturer of Monopoly, yesterday stepped up its defence against the £18 takeover attempt by British Printing & Communication Corporation with news of property deals worth £1.1m to counter BPC's £20m plan to redevelop the former Odhams printing plant site at Watford. ICI is to spend £35m expanding its Medinex polyester film factory in Dumfries. The project will create 250 jobs during construction and 100 production jobs once the building is completed in two years.

New structure will make management task easier Citibank and Lloyds in surprise deal over Grindlays ownership

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Lloyds Bank and Citibank have agreed after years of fruitless discussion on proposals to sort out the tangled, restricting ownership structure of Grindlays Bank in which they both have a large stake. The agreement will leave Citibank in a dominant position controlling 48.6 per cent of the publicly-quoted Grindlays Holdings, which in turn will own all of Grindlays Bank. Lloyds will have 21.3 per cent. Citibank will be fully committed to expanding Grindlays as an independent bank. Under the present structure, Grindlays Bank is 49 per cent owned by Citibank and 51 per cent by Grindlays Holdings, which in turn is 41.4 per cent owned by Lloyds. The nature of the shareholding reorganization came as a surprise because it was well known for some time that Citibank had been looking to sell its stake. It was widely expected that Lloyds would emerge as the dominant shareholder. So Citibank appears to have recently reassessed its position. The new scheme, which has to be passed by Grindlays Holdings shareholders at an extraordinary meeting, has the approval of the Bank of England, and the Takeover Panel is expected to waive any obligation for Citibank to make a full bid. Shareholders in Grindlays Holdings are also being compensated with a 5.6p special dividend in recognition of the advantage Citibank is drawing from the proposals. The scheme came at an important moment for Grindlays, which has undergone a long haul recovering from problems brought on by the secondary banking and property crisis in the mid-1970s. In the last year or so it has made several big disposals as part of a move to realign its business, but the shareholding structure has long been recognized as unsatisfactory. Mr Alec Ritchie, deputy chairman, who will now be taking over as chairman from Mr Nigel Robson, said yesterday: "We view Grindlays as an independent bank and want to see it prosper as an investment." Citibank will not consolidate Grindlays' results or treat it as part of its worldwide banking operations. Mr Norman Jones, group chief executive of Lloyds Bank, said that the old shareholding structure had been a "kind of veto situation and nobody was really happy." He said that the proposals made sense and were in the interests of the bank. Shares in Grindlays Holdings which were recently at 207p on takeover rumours, rose 23p yesterday to close at 182p. City analysts have remained puzzled about the bank's strategic direction. With only one big shareholder, the task of management is expected to be easier. It will also be easier, if Grindlays thinks it necessary, to raise fresh capital through a rights issue. Grindlays had total assets of £308m at the end of 1982 and profits last year were £29m compared with £34.5m in 1981. Last year, it raised nearly £90m by selling its Hongkong subsidiary, Doa Hong, and its small stake in the National Bank of Dubai. Grindlays developed in the days of the Empire as a British bank operating overseas



Grindlays, Mr Glen Moreno, senior corporate officer for Europe, said: "We view Grindlays as an independent bank and want to see it prosper as an investment." Citibank will not consolidate Grindlays' results or treat it as part of its worldwide banking operations. Mr Norman Jones, group chief executive of Lloyds Bank, said that the old shareholding structure had been a "kind of veto situation and nobody was really happy." He said that the proposals made sense and were in the interests of the bank. Shares in Grindlays Holdings which were recently at 207p on takeover rumours, rose 23p yesterday to close at 182p. City analysts have remained puzzled about the bank's strategic direction. With only one big shareholder, the task of management is expected to be easier. It will also be easier, if Grindlays thinks it necessary, to raise fresh capital through a rights issue. Grindlays had total assets of £308m at the end of 1982 and profits last year were £29m compared with £34.5m in 1981. Last year, it raised nearly £90m by selling its Hongkong subsidiary, Doa Hong, and its small stake in the National Bank of Dubai. Grindlays developed in the days of the Empire as a British bank operating overseas

£50m profit for Royal Insurance

By Andrew Cornelius

Royal insurance yesterday reported a sharp increase in interim pretax profits but undermined the importance of a recovery in the US insurance market to the company's fortunes. Pretax profits in the six months to June 30 totalled £50.1m against £32m at the same stage last year. But increase in investment income from £115.4m to £135.4m helped mask the problems in the US market which led to another increase in underwriting losses. The losses grew from last year's record level of £94m to £99.3m this time, with US losses up from £50.8m to £72.5m. Mr John Howard, chief general manager, says that the US is still the main problem area where 41 per cent of Royal's non-life business is transacted. It is also the area which offers most room for improvement in the group in the short term, he says. As yet there is little evidence of any recovery in the US market, but Royal is hoping that its action to increase prices and turn away bad business will lead to better results by the end of this year. The key to United States recovery is an improvement in the economy which will help the three main problem lines of business: commercial risks, and commercial and personal motor



Walter: flat is "not very big"

£325,000 flat for LRC chief

By Vivien Goldsmith

LRC International yesterday disclosed that it has spent £325,000 on a luxury three-bedroom flat for its chief executive, Mr Alan Woltz. The company, whose interests range from rubber gloves to contraceptives and baby gripe water, are adamant that the money was well spent. The finance director, Mr Paul Bristow, said that the flat, which is held on a 66-year lease, should increase in value. "We expect Mr Woltz, who is 50, to remain on a luxury three-bedroom flat for 10 years. One could buy a flat for much less but it would be on a short lease and it would fall in value." The purchase price of the flat, in the West End of London, accounted for between two-thirds and three-quarters of the total cost: the rest was spent on redecoration and legal fees. Mr Bristow said that he did not expect any reaction from shareholders. "We did look at the Marks and Spencer reaction. But that case was quite different. They didn't tell the shareholders, and the directors had an interest in the property. Mr Woltz has no option to buy." His salary rose last year from £203,675 to £231,461. Mr Bristow said that the purchase of the property was mentioned in the accounts so that shareholders would be fully aware of what was happening.

World speculators drop the dollar

By Wayne Lintoff

The dollar weakened sharply against other leading currencies yesterday as speculative funds left it now that hopes for higher American interest rates have receded. The lower-than-expected rise in the US money supply and a slowdown in the growth rate of the country's economy caused widespread markdowns of the dollar's international value. The dollar fell 1.5 cents to 1.5060 against the pound, more than five pence against the Deutschmark to 2.6635 and three cents against the Swiss franc to 1.435. Ironically, it was the big currency futures market in Chicago which started the selling when it opened for trading at 2pm London time. Earlier, European action against the dollar had been easily absorbed. Monday's booming stock market action in London proved short-lived yesterday. The market opened higher but the failure of American markets to follow suit caused some hefty profit-taking and by the close the FT index was unchanged at 732.8. Gilt-edged stock led Monday's climb but prices slipped by up to 50p yesterday as US bond markets held steady.

Tace sell-off to raise £3m

Tace is to float off its high technology subsidiary, Goring Kerr, with a full listing on the stock market which will raise about £3m by way of a tender offer. The cash will pay off Tace's high borrowings and provide research and development funds. Tace's general manager, Mr Richard Richardson, also confirmed that Tace's profits this year will be substantially greater than last year's £413,000. But Tace's shareholders will get no preferential treatment if they subscribe for the Goring Kerr shares. London and Northern are big shareholders with 30 per cent.

Latin American oil threat

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Latin American oil countries are believed to be setting up an oil-exporting group which could threaten the present stability of world oil prices. Oil-producing countries in Central and South America are about to ratify a plan discussed this month to coordinate their oil production and pricing policies, according to Mr David Mizrahil, an oil industry analyst in New York. The new grouping is being promoted by the Latin American Organization for Energy and is being regarded within the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries as a short-term threat to price stability. Venezuela and Ecuador, which are Opec members, and Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago together produce 5 million barrels of oil a day and account for 10 per cent of world output. Venezuela and Ecuador are not satisfied that their output and prices are tied within Opec agreements and are anxious to step up production. With large populations and heavy overseas borrowing, the Latin American oil-producers argue that they are in a different position from the Arab oil states and need to maximize their short-term profits from oil. Opec output is now 17.5 million barrels a day quota. The Latin American producers feel that they should be allowed to take advantage of the expected upsurge in demand.

Output rises but shares falter

Washington (Reuters) US industrial production rose a seasonally adjusted 1.3 per cent in July, the Federal Reserve board said. The July performance reflected improvements throughout most of the industries. Gains were especially strong in cars and steel, according to the Fed. On Wall Street the Dow Jones industrial average was down about 1.5 points in moderate trading yesterday. It fell about 4 points in early dealings but recovered to show a fractional gain before turning back. International Business Machines was 12 1/2% up 1 1/2% US Steel 26% up 1/2% United Technologies 69% up 3/4% Dupont 49% up 1/2% Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing 78% down 1/2% General Electric 49% down 1/2% General Motors 69% up 1/2% Mobil 31% up 1/2% NCR was down 3 1/2% to 114 1/2% Hewlett Packard down 1 1/2% to 82% Northwest Air down 1 1/2% to 40% Balm down 1 1/2% to 63% Hazeltine up 3% to 29% National Semiconductor down 1 1/2% to 46% Caterpillar down 1 1/2% to 38% Bandag up 1% to 55% Halliburton up 1/2% to 44% PG Industries down 1/2% to 58% Associated Dry Goods was up 2% to 66%.

Decline in US harvest Grain trade outlook improves

By John Young, Agricultural Correspondent

The international grain market, which until recently was characterized by huge surpluses and depressed prices, is showing signs of a marked and rapid improvement for sellers. The main reason is a sharp fall in coarse grain and oilseed production in the US because of a combination of hot dry weather, which has drastically reduced yields, and the Administration's payment-in-kind programme, whereby farmers are offered grain from storage to sell on the market in return for agreeing not to plant crops this year. The US Department of Agriculture has forecast a 40 per cent decline in maize production, to the lowest level for nine years, and falls of 14 per cent and 19 per cent for wheat and soya respectively. The Chicago market has responded with corresponding price rises of 25 per cent, 10 per cent and 30 per cent in the last month alone. The department has also estimated that world production of coarse grains - maize, barley and feedgrains - will fall from 779.6 million tonnes in 1982-83 to 716.3 million tonnes in 1983-84. Carryover stocks are expected to decrease from 147.2 million tonnes to 90.7 million tonnes. According to the European Commission, EEC's barley production is likely to be down from 41 million to 35.7 million tonnes in the same period. This will certainly relieve the Commission of a substantial burden in export refunds to producers - quantities being offered for intervention storage are currently running at less than half last year's level. It may even mean a shortage of malting barley and the possibility of imports from Australia or Canada. Although world wheat production is expected to be almost the same as last year, and consumption expected to decline slightly, its price is clearly being affected by what is happening in the rest of the market. High prices for imported soya, for example, will lead to increased demand for feed-wheat from European producers. The market would, of course, soar still further if the Russians or East Europeans were to emerge as substantial purchasers. At present the Soviet harvest is expected to be reasonably good but, as one observer pointed out yesterday, this would hardly be the best time for them to declare their hand.

Unilever results

The Directors of Unilever announce the results for the second quarter of 1983 and for the first half-year.

Table with columns for Second Quarter 1983, Second Quarter 1982, Increase/Decrease, Half-Year 1983, Half-Year 1982, Increase/Decrease. Rows include Sales to Third Parties, Operating Profit, Profit Before Taxation, Profit Attributable to Ordinary Capital, and Combined Earnings per Share.

Exchange Rates The results for the quarter and the half-year and the comparative figures for 1982 have been translated at comparable rates of exchange. These are based on £1=Fl.4.23=U.S. \$1.61, which were the closing rates of 1982. An exception has been made for the results that have arisen in hyper-inflationary economies, which for the current quarter and current half-year have been translated at forecast closing rates for 1983. The profit attributable to ordinary capital for the current quarter and current half-year has also been translated at the rates of exchange current at the end of June 1983 being based on £1=Fl.4.36=U.S. \$1.53.

Results In the second quarter of 1983 sales value was 3% higher than in the corresponding quarter of 1982 but, because of lower sales in UAC International, volume was 1% down. Operating profit was up by 6%.

In North America our operations in total continued to make good progress; both Lever Brothers and National Starch had substantially improved results compared with last year. UAC International's sales volume and results were significantly down on last year as a result of continued difficult trading conditions in Nigeria and also in Francophone Africa.

Elsewhere outside Europe and North America sales volume, including good contributions from our recent acquisitions in Chile and the Ivory Coast, showed a significant increase and total results were higher than last year.

The drop in the concern share of associated companies' profit reflects the lower results of UAC of Nigeria, in which we have an interest of 40%.

16th August, 1983

Unilever Quarterly Results are reprinted in leaflet form. If you wish to be included in the mailing list for these leaflets please write to: Public Relations Department, P.O. Box 68, Unilever House, London EC4P 4BQ. Part of everyday life, in 75 countries

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Fleming Japan Investment Trust
Year to 31.7.83
Attributable profit £588,000 (£1.1m)
Stated earnings 3.8p (7.38p)
Income £1.4m (£1.8m)
Net interim dividend 0.5p
Share price 38p unchanged Yield: 2.6%

Anglo International Investment Trust
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £322,000 (£324,000)
Net interim dividend 2.5p (same)

Metal Bulletin
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £326,000 (£381,000)
Stated earnings 3.5p (4.2p)
Turnover £2.1m (£2.1m)
Net interim dividend 2.2p (same)

Pitney Bowes
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £2.6m (£2.3m)
Turnover £21.2m (£18.7m)

Abercom Group
Year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £5.6m (£23.5m)
Turnover £14.3m (£8.4m) (£29.2m)
Net final dividend 16 cents (36 cents)

Hesselt Holdings
Year to 30.4.83
Pretax profit £401,000 (£383,000)
Stated earnings 9p (12.8p)
Turnover £5.3m (£4.8m)
Net total dividend 5.6p (same)
Share price 74p up 6p. Yield: 10.8%

Reatmor Group
Year to 30.4.83
Pretax profit £1.5m (£1.3m)
Stated earnings 14.5p (15.7p)
Turnover £12.9m (£11.4m)
Net final dividend 5.5p making 6.5p (5.5p)
Share price 131p up 1p Yield: 6.5%

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

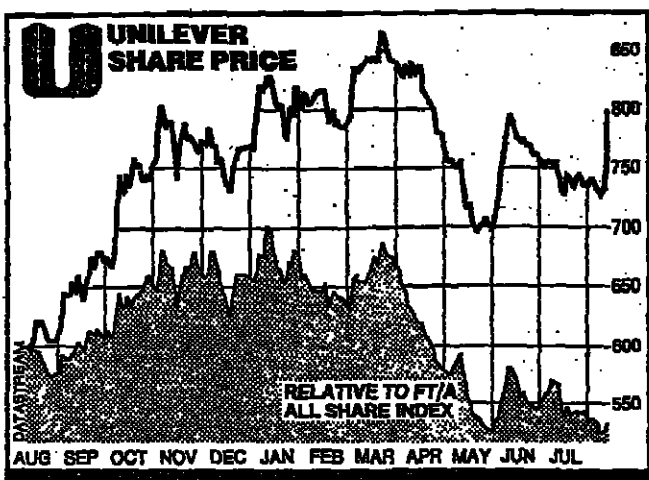
Why Holmes à Court's bid is a serious one

It is undoubtedly one of Mr Robert Holmes à Court's most agreeable characteristics that he has lost none of his capacity to surprise. But the distinctly cheeky bid for Broken Hill Proprietary is not a diversion contrived over the weekend between taking control of the instantly famous Wignores and offering two of his shares at A56 each for every one BHP.

The idea was conceived a decade ago, when Mr Holmes à Court contemplated using Albion Woolen Mills for the purpose, and it is entirely serious.

Firstly, however, it is important to be clear about what Mr Holmes à Court is not doing. He does not expect to take over BHP - indeed, success in that direction could be embarrassing and he does not hold BHP shares whose value he is just promoting. The truth is more complicated and more constructive.

Mr Holmes à Court aims to increase cheaply and at a stroke the fund-raising powers of his interests. If all went to plan it could work like this: acquiring 5 per cent of BHP's equity or 17 million shares would turn Wignores into a company with A5260m (£1.54m) in assets and liabilities of A518m, while the



Unilever

Half-year to 30.6.83.
Pretax profit £391m (£394m).
Stated earnings 50.81p (54.11p).
Turnover £5,680m (£5,522m).
Share price 78p Yield 5.2%.

Swings and roundabouts are never motionless at Unilever, so the problems of West Africa and continued slow growth in European sales did not stop the consumer products group from slightly exceeding expectations.

Second quarter sales were 3 per cent higher at £3,400m, while pretax profits for the same

period rose by twice as much to £228m.

By almost making up for a poor first quarter, Unilever has encouraged hopes that full-year pretax profits could be as high as £770m against £723m last year.

Overall, the progress has been achieved, externally, by better conditions, which generated higher volumes and wider margins, and internally by continued attention to productivity and reorganization.

Reconstruction costs of about £15m were offset by the sale to BAT of the International Stores stake.

On the products side, frozen foods showed little progress, with ice-cream sales sluggish. But margins were better on other foods, with Walls trading in the black and John West improving.

The new range of Thomas Lipton teas launched in Britain has flopped and is being reviewed, but Lipton Export increased sales, particularly to the Middle and Far East.

Detergents have held their market share, despite the fierce competition, and sales and market share of personal products are up 1/2. The industrial companies were dragged down by problems with the transport businesses, but chemicals are recovering. Paper only broke even.

Lever Brothers and National Starch are profitable in the United States, although a new Lever product launch could push it back into the red for one quarter.

The Bank of England's gamble on good US money-supply figures helping to rally the market seems to have paid off. Expectations of at least a respite in the rise in American interest rates have fuelled investors' interests in bond markets. There are also signs that the building societies, now attracting more funds since they increased their rates, have been preparing to apply for the new stock.

The tap, 10 per cent Treasury convertible, 1986, is still rather dear as a long, but was looking about 2 1/2% cheap as a short yesterday and this should ensure a fairly good reception for the stock at today's tender.

The question now is whether the market is set for a sustained rally. Certainly, the upward pressure on British interest rates seems to have eased, and with inflation likely to remain moderate, yields approaching 12 per cent the long end of the gilt market are looking attractive.

Toys save Cowan de Groot

By Jeremy Warner

Cowan de Groot
Year to 30.4.83
Pretax profit £224,000 (£135,000).
Turnover £29.4m (£40.9m).
Net final dividend 7p making 2p (same).
Share price 28p up 1p Yield 3.9%.

Cowan de Groot's offshoot, Decker, which makes spider-man suits and Wendy Houses, made profits of about £700,000 last year, but the rest of the group lost money.

The result was that the group made only £224,000 in pretax profits during the year to last April, the second half barely breaking even. The profits were struck after taking account of £439,000 of losses chalked up by its Chilton and Hatfield Machinery interests, which have since been sold.

After extraordinary costs relating to the disposals and tax, the group lost £513,000 and will have to dig deep into reserves to pay a maintained final dividend of 1p.

However, better is expected this year, when it expects to make at least enough profit to pay for dividends that have been costing more than £400,000 a year. Mr Derrick Cowan, the chairman, says that the group has a target of restoring its former higher-dividend level on a fully-covered basis next year.

The company is soon to appoint a chief executive for the first time. Mr Cowan and Mr Lansdowne Williams have been acting as joint managing directors. Mr Cowan will remain as chairman and Mr Williams will stay on the board until September 1984.

Mr Laurence Roberts has recently been appointed a director to seek new areas of operation.

Mr Roy Moss, managing director of Decker, has also been appointed to the board.

Intasun rise

Intasun Leisure Group's chairman, Mr Harry Goodman, yesterday confirmed at the group's annual meeting what trade surveys have been showing for a few months that Intasun is one of the two package holiday companies gaining in this summer's trading. Intasun summer trading up to August 6 rose 27 per cent over the same period last year.

Thomson Holidays which cut its prices also gained.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		1987-1988
Spot	1095.00-96.00	1097-1098
Three months	1115.00-1120.00	1097-1100
Six months	1130.00-1135.00	1097-1100
One year	1145.00-1150.00	1097-1100
Two years	1160.00-1165.00	1097-1100
Three years	1175.00-1180.00	1097-1100
Four years	1190.00-1195.00	1097-1100
Five years	1205.00-1210.00	1097-1100
Silver	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Gold	1200.00-1205.00	1097-1100
Platinum	1200.00-1205.00	1097-1100
Palladium	1200.00-1205.00	1097-1100
Copper	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Aluminum	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Zinc	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Nickel	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Lead	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Tin	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Iron	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
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Coal	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Oil	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Gas	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Wheat	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Corn	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Soybeans	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Wool	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Cotton	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Silk	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Rubber	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Latex	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Gold	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Silver	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Platinum	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Palladium	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Copper	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Aluminum	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Zinc	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Nickel	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Lead	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Tin	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Iron	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Steel	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Coal	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
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Gas	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Wheat	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
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Rubber	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
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Oil	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Gas	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Wheat	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Corn	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Soybeans	1095.00-1100.00	1097-1100
Wool	1095.00-1100.00	

The engineers fight back - 2: Susan Bevan with the second of a series

New-look TI improves but has it done enough?

After a battering at the heart of the metal industries, TI Group, which was better known as Tube Investments, is showing signs of recuperation.

That compares well with only £4.7m for the whole of last year, but is a long way from the annual profits of almost £80m TI was notching up five years ago.

What groups like us have had to do is reduce our dependence on those parts of engineering which don't have a future," said Sir Brian Kellest, chairman of TI.

The whole process of restructuring TI has been to change the mix of the business away from the heavy end of the industry and the commodity type of business.

On its way through the fire, TI has changed its name and sold its London headquarters. More materially, it has shed its aluminium business and the last of its steel interests.

Branded consumer products have become the white hope for profits this year. Products with high value added that can prosper through recession are the new keys to the larger specialist engineering division, which is taking over the running from the commodity-like tubes of the traditional business.

The process has been painful. TI's workforce has been halved in three years to 32,000. The cost of assures, redundancies and the loss of the sale of British Aluminium amounted to £80m over 1981 and 1982.

Net assets employed in the business have dropped from £554m in the 1979 balance sheet to £328m at the end of last year. Out of this total specialist engineering products now account for 35 per cent, against only 13 per cent three years ago.

Consumer products, mainly domestic appliances and heavily promoted and revamped Raleigh cycle business, have

increased in importance from 20 per cent to 40 per cent. But the most dramatic symbol of change was the sale for £17m last October of TI's 58 per cent holding in British Aluminium.

Falling world prices and competitive weaknesses in a global market where British Aluminium was a minnow among giants led to an attributable loss for TI of £12.7m in 1981 and a further £3.8m in the months of 1982 before its sale to Alcan.

The disposal meant a £36.3m write-off but it was a vital step in the process of making TI less of a helpless victim of the swings and roundabouts of the economic cycle.

With the nature of its businesses and most of its assets in Britain, TI's progress has always been closely tied to the performance of the British economy. Pre-tax profits rose steadily rather than spectacularly through the 1970s from £18.7m in 1971 to £78.4m in 1978 (boosted by the consolidation of British Aluminium).

Then came a setback to £52m as the recession began to bite in 1979 and an inexorable slide into a loss of £23.1m in the depths of 1981.

The hesitancy of Britain's overall recovery was faithfully reflected in TI's depressingly small pre-tax profit of £4.7m last year and even today the turnaround is not across the board. Steel tubes remained stuck in the doldrums during the first half of this year with dismal prospects and the depressed machine tools sector only recently beginning to perk up, led to lower profits from the engineering division.

But the increased emphasis on consumer products - washing machines, heaters and kettles with names like Creda, Glow-Worm and Russell Hobbs - is paying dividends.

This division produced £10m of the £14.1m trading profit total for the half year. Meanwhile a new approach to Raleigh bicycles - no longer a commodity pumped into insecure Third World markets but a highly promoted style-conscious business catering to trendy Europeans - has set this loss-making division on the way to break even this year.

Sir Brian, who has frequently poured cold water over premature forecasts of recovery, is more confident now but characteristically not over-exuberant.

"What we are seeing is the economy coming up with a consumer-led boom but it will be a slow process for it to spread through and ultimately bring up heavy capital investment.

"I don't think there is any doubt that the volume of world demand for some of these heavy products will be less in the future than at times in the past.

For example, the period of expansion of the steel industry is over. There are technical trends, too. The volume of the machine tool industry is less than it was partly because of the recession but partly due to the industry's own success in producing advanced tools that last longer.

Sir Brian believes that the slim-line TI has compared the restructuring needed to face the future. The group's critics think it is not before time.

Even before the recession took hold it was recognized, within TI as well as outside, that the group faced structural headwinds. Its main profit-earners were in mature or declining markets.

After reorienting itself in the late 1960s, after the loss through nationalization of much of its steel business, TI put life into the tubes business and the construction of the doomed lever-gordian aluminium smelter.

With hindsight, too much attention was paid to producing intermediate goods where marketing and innovation play a small part.

It still remains to be seen whether TI has yet done enough to secure its future. Market hopes for this year, taking into account a bumper second half for domestic appliances and a recovery in machine tools, are for pre-tax profits of about £20m - still not much of a return on capital employed of nearly £350m. Uncertainty continues to hang over bicycles and steel tubes. There is not much TI can do about the latter but it is putting its back into Raleigh.

Even with its big bicycle brand names, TI Raleigh was criticized for depending too much on bulk sales to what proved unstable Third World markets, and as a complacent monopoly which succumbed to cheap imports at home.

Since the dark days of 1981, when TI's cycle and toy division lost £10.5m, Raleigh has undergone a complete rethink from production methods to marketing. Employment is down by a third, the range has been both rationalized and redesigned and the stress has moved to selling bikes as consumer goods for the fashion-conscious.

Some £7m will be spent on the revamp this year and the cautious Sir Brian has "great confidence" in the division's future. "We have a very young and active management bringing this business back to shape", he says.

The big success of the BMX burner for boys has helped Raleigh to restore its share of the British market to its pre-crisis 50 per cent from a low of 35 per cent in 1981. But there is still a long way to go if the business is to return to the big profits of five years ago.

Many TI followers believe the money and attention could be better spent elsewhere and cheer rumours like those last week suggesting a Japanese buyer for the bikes.

But there is no debate on the improved potential of the engineering side.

What groups like us have had to do is reduce our dependence on those parts of engineering which don't have a future?

There is no doubt that the volume of world demand for some of these products will be less in future?

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A good move here has been the acquisition in 1981 of the American group King Fifth Wheel. The £25.6m purchase is Sir Brian's favourite example of the group's direction today.

KFW represents an important move both into higher technology engineering and the United States market. Its flash-welded rings, an important component of aircraft gas turbine engines, dovetails neatly with the business of TI Reynolds, which is the leading supplier of these products to the European aerospace industry.

At the same time KFW's subsidiary, Abar, is the United States leader in another high technology growth area - vacuum heat treating furnaces used in the production of sophisticated alloys.

Demand for the aircraft components is depressed but KFW made a profit of almost £5m in the year before its purchase and Sir Brian is "looking forward with relief" to the time when the airlines are back on the buying trail.

Another bright spot is Crane Packing which leads the way in mechanical seals, scattered in

thousands in industrial plant - and needing constant replacement whatever the stage of the business cycle. Similarly, good business is being won in garage equipment.

In machine tools, TI Matrix and TI Churchill are now half the size they were two years ago. The focus now is on computer-controlled tools designed with a close eye on consumer requirements. It is hoped these machines will fend off the Japanese threat in the reviving market place.

While TI is now hoping to make more than the former owner from the Alfred Herbert range of computer controlled lathes which it bought from the receiver for £850,000, the industry clearly is still in a state of flux.

Steel tubes remain a big problem, though capacity has been radically pruned at the commodity end of the business. Talks go on with British Steel on a concerted rationalization of the industry and some outcome from these will be the most important element in the saga of TI's struggle back.

Tomorrow: Vickers



Kellest Confident but characteristically not overexuberant

W H Smith names cable section chief

W H Smith: Mr Francis Baron has become managing director of the new cable services division.

Lloyds Bank: Mr J. P. B. Hadfield has been appointed a regional director of the North West regional board.

Bank of America: Mr John Adeshead has been promoted senior vice president and appointed to the new position of head of personnel and administration, based in London.

AE Group: Mr Alan Arnott has become deputy managing director, AE Auto Parts, Mr Peter Adcock has become managing director, Edmunds Walker & Co, with responsibility for the activities of Edmunds Walker (Holdings).

UMECO Holdings: Mr G. R. A. Metcalfe has been appointed group managing director.

Hunting Gate Developments: Mr Malcolm McPherson has been made a director.

European Ferries: Mr Roger Braidwood has joined the board after six years as the company's financial controller. He will continue to combine control of the group's finances with co-ordination of European Ferries property developments in Britain and the US.

The Hargreaves Group: Mr G. D. Stevenson becomes director in charge of overseas developments and Dr M. R. Scott assumes the responsibility

APPOINTMENTS

as chairman of energy division previously held by Mr Stevenson. Dr Scott will retain his responsibilities as planning and marketing director.

Freshwater Biological Association: Dr Robin Clarke has been appointed director of the association from October 1. He will succeed Mr David Le Cren, who is retiring.

Appleford: Mr Cyril Hehir has joined the company, which is part of the Vine Products Group, as managing director designate to succeed Mr Neville Kirby, who became chairman of Appleford, remains on the board of Vine Products.

Warner Lambert UK: Mr John Telford Beasley, managing director and president of the UK, Ireland and "Commonwealth" African region, and Mr Hector Graham, president of the France, North West Africa and Middle East region, have exchanged posts. Mr James Hamilton who has retired as export director for Warner Lambert, has been succeeded by Mr Edwin Buy, previously operations director. He is succeeded by Mr Colin Clarke, director of the Company's Parke-Davis factory in Pontypool, responsibilities which he will retain.

Racal. Twenty-eighth consecutive record year.

Last year world trading conditions were the most difficult that we have experienced for many years. Despite this the Company achieved record sales and record profits for the 28th consecutive year.

The Group net profit before taxation for the year ended March 31st, 1983 amounted to £114,268,000 (previous year £102,616,000) an increase of 11.35%. Taxation is estimated to be £42,969,000.

In addition to the above profit, there is a realised currency exchange profit on operations of £2,162,000 which after estimated taxation of £472,000 has been transferred direct to the Currency Equalisation Reserve in accordance with our usual practice.

Taxation has increased from 31.5% of the pre-tax earnings for 1981/82 to 37.6% for the year under review. In 1981/82 and earlier years we benefited from the brought forward Decca tax losses, most of which have now been utilised.

The Directors are recommending the payment of a Final Dividend of 16.456% net of tax (4.11p per share) making a total of 22.022% for the year (1982 20.02%). Warrants for the Final Dividend will be posted on August 16th, 1983 to shareholders on the Register of Members on July 14th, 1983.

Our Business: Racal's principal activities, together with their respective percentages of sales, are:-

- Data Communications 32%
Radio Communications 24%
Marine Electronics 11%
Defence Radar & Avionics 11%
Energy Resources 6%
Other Business Activities 16%

Data Communications: Sales amounted to £242,167,000 representing an increase of 36% over the previous year.

The performance of Racal-Vadic of California, however, was excellent and profit margins were maintained.

The worldwide demand for data communications products continues at record levels as does the requirement for modems at all speeds.

Radio Communications: Sales of radio communications systems were £187,274,000. This was only a modest increase on the previous year and resulted from a slowdown in the rate of orders received from overseas countries following the sharp fall in the price of oil.

However, orders are not being lost to competitors in these territories but the signing of certain major contracts is being delayed by twelve months or more, due to the current economic difficulties in these countries.

Despite this problem the tactical radio communications companies had their best year by far with sales and profits at record levels. Our company continues to be the acknowledged world leader in this field.

The Sultanate of Oman recently placed an order, valued at £20,000,000, for JAGUAR VHF anti-jamming frequency hopping radios. This brings the total for these equipments up to £30,000,000. Approximately half of this amount has already been delivered.

Table with 4 columns: Year, Turnover (£), Sales Outside UK (£), Pre-Tax Profit (£), EPS after Tax. Rows from 1974 to 1983.

Sales of strategic radio were well down on forecast but there are now encouraging signs of improvement. After a difficult period of trading, contracts worth a total of nearly £22,000,000 have been recently awarded and further substantial orders for specialised systems in both civil and military environments are at advanced stages of negotiations.

There is good potential throughout the world for our extensive range of communications electronic warfare (EW) equipment for surveillance, direction finding and jamming.

Marine Electronics: Sales of all marine electronics products grew to £85,233,000.

This business is now directed through one organisation which controls and co-ordinates the activities of 24 UK and overseas companies. Plans for expansion in a number of key areas - navigation, radar, controls, simulation and service - are centralised within this group with particular emphasis on total systems.

Defence Radar & Avionics: During the year sales grew strongly to reach £81,751,000, of which defence radar contributed £66,000,000, this being three times more than that of 1980.

The many contracts being won for radar electronic warfare (EW) systems demonstrate the group's growth in this fast developing area. Some 25 years of experience in designing, developing and manufacturing EW systems has enabled Racal to emerge as a leading authority in defence systems for all environments on land, at sea and in the air.

A notable success was a £20,000,000 order for the supply of advanced electronics support measures (ESM) systems for Royal Navy submarines. Further naval orders in excess of £50,000,000 are confidently expected over the next few weeks.

Increasing participation in major collaborative programmes has resulted in a joint agreement with Westland Helicopters to develop avionics management systems.

Energy Resources: sales reached £45,038,000 in a difficult year for those involved in the oil related industries.

The formation of an energy resources group has brought together specialist companies involved in precise positioning

Research and Development: Racal has from its earliest days been committed to a policy of funding the great majority of its R & D from its own resources to develop proprietary products for the world market.

This policy has been continued with an increasing proportion of product developments, in the areas of business acquired with Decca, being handled this way.

Appreciation: The skill and dedication of our staff was formally recognised last November, when our Company was named as the winner of the 1982 United Kingdom Business Enterprise Award. I am certain that it will be your wish to join me in congratulating all the members of the Racal team for their tremendous efforts which have done so much to put our Company in the position it now holds in the world of professional electronics.

Additionally, we should thank most sincerely their families for their loyalty, encouragement and understanding which is essential for our success and is so greatly appreciated.

The Future: The former Decca group of companies is now going forward strongly. The major problem remaining to be solved is the elimination of the losses being incurred in the field of small boat radar and this year we expect to go a long way towards achieving that goal.

The defence radar business is especially successful - its order book is large and growing and the future prospects are most encouraging.

Several of our smaller businesses are progressing well, any of which could develop into a major activity.

The award of the cellular radio licence was one of the most exciting events in the history of Racal. In the short term, trading losses will be incurred and a substantial investment will need to be made whilst the system is being evolved and introduced.

However, it is anticipated that by 1987/88 trading profits will be earned and that by the early 1990s the operation will be cash positive. Cellular radio will undoubtedly be a substantial contributor to our future earnings.

The combination of our existing businesses, our product development policy and the new growth areas, such as cellular radio and pay television, will ensure the continued growth of the Company in the years ahead.

At March 31st, 1983 the Company had net cash of some £3,000,000 compared with net borrowings of £46,000,000 the year before. This cash position will improve considerably throughout the year and earnings will benefit as a consequence.

With regard to the current financial year I am confident that the management changes that have taken place at Racal-Milgo, Miami, will result in an improved contribution to Group profitability.

Referring to the other factor which adversely affected last year's results, namely, the delay in the placing of a large number of orders from overseas, there are signs that the position is now improving.

Provided therefore that major delays do not continue and subject to any other circumstances beyond our control, we can look forward to another record year, our 29th in succession.

Sir Ernest Harrison OBE, Chairman and Chief Executive.

Base Lending Rates table listing various banks and their rates.

Racal The Electronics Group advertisement with logo and contact information.

International trade: John Lawless looks at what is happening on the British business front at home and overseas

ECGD hint of private involvement

The committee of inquiry, announced yesterday, to investigate the state-run insurance agency, the Export Credits Guarantee Department, has a three-pronged brief.

Most fascinating will be to look into "the possibility of devolving any functions to the private sector or collaborating with the private sector in carrying them out".

This suggests that the ECGD, which has £29bn in British exports on its books, is a monopoly.

But Sir Peter Matthews, the Vickers chairman, who heads the inquiry, already knows (having served on the Export Guarantees Advisory Council) that all its work is open to private sector competition.

The largest of the specialist companies underwriters total business in one year that ECGD guarantees in two to three days, the House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts heard this year.

It concluded: "We are not convinced enough is yet being done to draw upon private sector expertise." It did not do so because ECGD was seen as jealously guarding its activities, but because the state agency, having had staff cuts, does not possess sufficient specialists to cover its outstanding risk.

The task facing Sir Peter, therefore, is not to bring large chunks of a state business to a hungry market of investors. He has to see whether existing private activities can be encouraged.

The review, the first in 11 years, is welcomed by industry. Lord Selouson, chairman of the CBI's export credit committee, said yesterday: "We are delighted the government has decided to act."

"In today's highly competitive trading conditions, the time is ripe to ensure that the department can provide UK exporters with credit insurance and financing facilities as effective as those available to our international trading competitors."

Outside specialists will, without doubt, continue to grow in importance. But they are still comparatively young and in a market which sees claims maturing over several years.

Saudi sales safe

Britain's soaring exports to Saudi Arabia are among the least likely to be threatened by the kingdom's second successive devaluation on its currency in a week, trade specialists stressed yesterday.

British exports reached £767m in the first six months of this year, against £644m the same time last year.

British purchases were expected to fall during the oil glut, but the sharp decrease in imports (down from £315m to £458m in the same periods) has not only put Britain into a two-way trade surplus.

It emphasizes the problems of cash generation facing all energy-exporting countries.

The British sales rise overlaps with a period when the kingdom's balance of payments have moved into deficit and with a decrease in government spending, by 6 per cent, to 62.5bn riyals in the first four months of the country's fiscal year, ending August 8.

The Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency at the weekend brought the riyal's value down to 3.48 against the dollar, from 3.47, a week after devaluing it from 3.45.

Duty-free imports double

Britain's claim to have one of the world's most open markets is backed by a Department of Trade and Industry study, just published, which shows the number of duty-free imports of manufactured goods doubling in 20 years.

In 1960, according to Visible Imports Subject to Restraints, about 40 per cent of Britain's factory-produced goods from overseas were allowed in without duties. By 1980, it was 80 per cent. The average incidence of tariffs on the rest halved to 9 per cent.

Membership of the EEC obviously had a large impact, but the study notes that the EEC supplied only 47 per cent of Britain's manufactured goods in 1980.

Many products from Commonwealth countries have lost their duty-free privileges, it says.

More important, in terms of protectionism, the study claims that only 7 per cent of British visible imports was subjected to non-tariff restraints.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has asked Professor Andrew Silberman, of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, to examine what barriers the British producers face in world markets, and how restraints on low-cost imports affect their performance.

Channon for Colombia

Mr Paul Channon, the Minister of Trade, is expected to visit Colombia soon in what would be his most important trip overseas since becoming trade minister.

Two British bids were among eleven submitted two weeks ago for the \$650m (£435m) mass transit subway system to be built in Medellin.

GEC is leading an Anglo-German consortium, while Hawker Siddeley is in a British-Canadian grouping.

The visit would give Mr Channon the opportunity to stress that the Government is prepared to back a British contractor to the hilt, having prepared a £50m aid package to go with it.

Notice of Mandatory Redemption PEMEX Petroleos Mexicanos U.S. \$20,000,000 8 1/2 per cent. Bonds 1987. Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the provisions of the Trust Deed dated August 10th, 1972, between Petroleos Mexicanos and Hambros Bank Executor and Trustee Company, Limited, U.S. \$1,750,000 nominal of the Bonds is due for mandatory redemption on September 1st, 1983 at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to September 1st, 1983.

electrocomponents. We have continued our 15 year record of uninterrupted growth in sales and profits. The proposed annual dividend has been substantially increased to 3.00p net reflecting our confidence in the Group's prospects.

Table with multiple columns containing financial data, including Authorized Units & Insurance Funds, and various company listings with their respective financial metrics.

Esse stea on th... ycott review... Cornwall

CRICKET: A TWO-HORSE RACE AS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP ENTERS FINISHING STRAIGHT

Essex quick to steal a march on the leaders

WELLINGBOROUGH: Essex (2pts) beat Northamptonshire (6) by 128 runs.

Turner. Unfortunately Larkins himself was comprehensively bowled by Lever shortly afterwards and Northamptonshire were on a hiding to nothing.

Boyd-Moss was magnificently caught by David East far down the leg side off Turner and from 50 for, they were 58 for four.

The Essex fielders began to run more and more hungrily to their positions and there was now only Steele's silver thatch, generously unconcealed, and batsmen's defence.

On one of these there were glimpses of his old trusty hook and it soon became plain he would have to be pried out. In the end he was, Gooch running back at slip to catch an awkward skier.

Middlesex one up

Middlesex have a match in hand over Essex. They play Somerset, Surrey and Northamptonshire at home and Sussex, Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire away.

122 before lunch. Griffiths bowled admirably for an hour, finding a brute of a ball to get Gladwin caught off his gloves and then having McEwaz leg before three balls later.

Another wicket at this point and Essex could have been in trouble. Hardie and Fletcher, however, soon regained the initiative, cutting and driving as Griffiths tired.

Scorecard for Essex vs Northamptonshire. Includes batting and bowling figures for both sides.

Championship table. Lists teams and their points in the county championship.

Boyce go-slow will be reviewed by county

CHELTENHAM: Gloucestershire (2pts) beat Yorkshire (3) by five wickets. Michael Crawford, the Yorkshire chairman, said yesterday that Geoff Boycott's slow scoring on Saturday against Gloucestershire would be considered when his contract came up for review at the end of the season.

Gloucestershire were set 277 to win but lost over an hour and a half before they were bowled out. Boycott spent six and a half hours over an unbroken 140 before he was dismissed.

Scorecard for Gloucestershire vs Yorkshire. Includes batting and bowling figures.

Minor Counties Review. Lists results of minor county matches.

Cornwall seek changes

Cornwall are pioneering a move to change the points system in the Minor Counties championship, now sponsored by the United Friends Trust. The Cornwall secretary, Tom Mencer, has written to the other 19 secretaries for support.

It is the points award for the first innings that is mainly under the microscope. For the first time points being awarded for the first two overs of a side's batting.

Surrey bounce past a milestone

Roanie Whelan is likely to be Liverpool's only regular first team player absent from the Charity Shield match against Manchester United at Wembley on Saturday. He has been ruled out from this game, and the start of the league season, while he recovers from a pelvic operation.

Cavalier Briers brightens up gloom

It was always a stiff target, but while Kallicharran was at the crease it remained an outside possibility. He began with four boundaries and at tea, with Amis also in occupation, Warwickshire were by no means out of the hunt at 104 for two.

His next wicket, in the last over before the final 20, was the vital one for Kallicharran, who had been living dangerously outside the off stump for some time, and now found the safe hands of Steele.

Maiden 50 Taylor at his peak

DERBY: Derby (4pts) drew with Somerset (7). This match was abandoned as a draw when heavy rain washed out play in the first of the final 20 overs.

Scorecard for Derby vs Somerset. Includes batting and bowling figures.

Turner the mainstay

TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire (6 points) drew with Hampshire (3 points). A determined 94, his best score of the season, David Turner, the Hampshire left-hand batter, dug his team out of a crisis against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge.

Scorecard for Nottinghamshire vs Hampshire. Includes batting and bowling figures.

Injury keeps Whelan out

Roanie Whelan is likely to be Liverpool's only regular first team player absent from the Charity Shield match against Manchester United at Wembley on Saturday. He has been ruled out from this game, and the start of the league season, while he recovers from a pelvic operation.

Relentless march by Hartlepool

George Turley and Mal Hughes of Eton College, Hartlepool, reached the semi-final round of the pairs event in the English Bowling Association championships, sponsored by the Gateway Building Society, at the Hartlepool Bowling Club on Tuesday.

In the morning Turley and Hughes, 13-16, drew, scored 2, 2, 4 over the last three ends to beat Ron Oakes and Brett Long of Slough 21-16 in a tie-for-tie match.

Leconte fractures foot

Mason, Ohio (Reuter) - In the first round of the Association of Tennis Professionals championships here, the No. 2 seed, Andre Leconte, had to withdraw with a fractured right foot.

Three of the world's top 10 players, Guillermo Vilas, Jose-Luis Clerico, and Yannick Noah, were late withdrawals, but McEnroe, Lendl and Connors are all playing.

FOR THE RECORD

Table listing various sports records, including baseball, tennis, and other events.

AMERICA'S CUP

A victory foiled by shift of wind

In what must be regarded as a most convincing sign of improvement, the 23rd Britain's entry in the semi-final classic trials, led by the radical Ben Lexcen designed Australia II for most of the third round race for Newport, Rhode Island on Monday.

Whichello courts trouble

Peter Moore, the No 2 seed, survived a warning, a penalty point and a match point before emerging to take his place in the quarter finals of the 18 and under junior grass court tournament at Eastbourne.

As it was, he again found himself in trouble, but now it was not until he was two points away from defeat that he began to play more constructively.

IN BRIEF

Table listing various sports news items, including tennis, basketball, and other events.

Vertical text on the left margin, possibly a page number or reference.

Vertical text on the right margin, possibly a page number or reference.

RACING: ANOTHER ENGLISH TRIUMPH FOR VINCENT O'BRIEN

Eddery has the whip hand on brave Caerleon

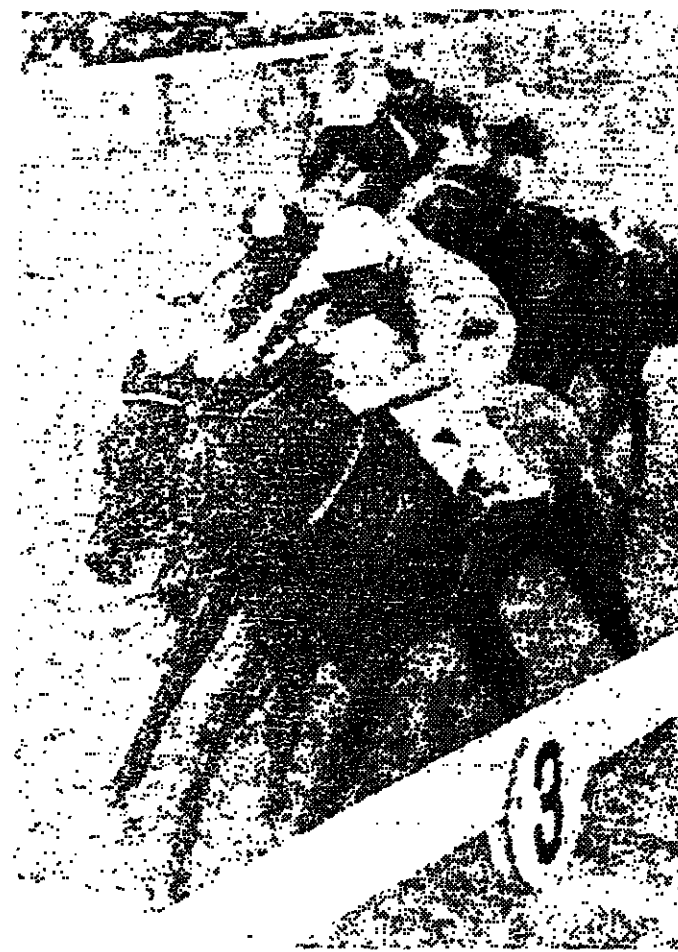
By Michael Seely

Both Caerleon and Sun Princess stamped themselves as leading contenders for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe on rain-soaked ground at York yesterday. Brilliantly ridden by Pat Eddery, who was gaining his third consecutive triumph in the centrepiece of the opening day of Yorkshire's festival of racing, the French Derby winner showed superb courage and stamina when resisting the determined assault of the Irish-trained Sun Princess, who also showed fine judgement in his handling of Sun Princess, who made every yard of the running to beat Green Lucia by four lengths in the Yorkshire Oaks.

Despite the late withdrawal of the ante-post favourite, Shareef Dancer, because of the soft going, nothing should be allowed to detract from the stellar performance of Caerleon. Confident of his mount's stamina, Eddery dictated the gallop on the gyrus. Both John French and Gorytus launched dangerous-looking attacks half-way up the straight, but in a desperate last-furlong battle Caerleon was always just holding Hot Touch's challenge. The pair finished on even half-lengths ahead of John French with Gorytus in fourth place.

Caerleon's triumph paid further tribute to the genius of Vincent O'Brien, who has long been acknowledged as one of the outstanding racehorse trainers of all time. Robert Sangster's Nijinsky colt was fitted with a tongue strap as a precautionary measure. "I don't know whether it made any difference or not," O'Brien said afterwards. "But Caerleon gurgled after losing his shoes in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot, so we thought it worthwhile trying."

Surprisingly O'Brien is still



Caerleon holds the challenge of Hot Touch.

contending that Caerleon is a better horse on fast going and it speaks volumes for the three-year-old's consistency and toughness that he has been able to win two group one races under these conditions. The trainer is still unable to confirm that Caerleon will take the Ballydoyle representative at Longchamp. Announcing that he would defend the French Derby, he was allowed to take his chance in this afternoon's Great Voltigeur Stakes after inspecting the ground this morning, the trainer said: "I have to think about Solford as well as Caerleon and Salmon Leap could still come into the reckoning."

The withdrawal of Shareef Dancer must have come as a bitter disappointment to the enormous crowd who had been hopeful of watching the Irish Derby winner confirm his superiority over Caerleon. Michael Stoute said: "It is very annoying and frustrating, but I know I made the right decision. I have no immediate plans for the horse. This appeared to be an ideal opportunity of winning another group one race on fast ground and as the season progresses these opportunities become fewer."

Walter Swinburn, the stable jockey, endorsed the trainer's opinion. "Mr Stoute was 110 per cent right. Shareef Dancer would not have won under these conditions."

Sun Princess, on the other hand had already shown that she loves testing going when winning the Oaks by 12 lengths. Yesterday the English Princess again confirmed that she is the best of her age and sex in these islands. Give Thanks, the impressive winner of the Irish Oaks was going easily early in the straight, but could only take

Soft going hardens Teeno's chance

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The ground could easily hold the key to the outcome of the Great Voltigeur Stakes at York today, now that there has been rain to an appreciable quantity there. The Derby winner, Teeno, who excelled himself on soft ground in the spring will be in his element once again, and he is my selection. Had it remained firm, it might have been sensible to go for the Eclipse Stakes winner, Solford, who was blissfully at ease on the firm ground at Sandown, especially as Teeno looked like a cat on hot bricks when he finished only third behind Shareef Dancer and Caerleon. However, the rain on top of a heavily watered course will have been with sweet music in his trainer, Geoff Wragg's, ears, and anyone who, as usual, remarked looking skywards, "He will like this", has been right.

In common with most of his horses Mubarak of Kuwait was wrong for a while earlier this year. However, confidence has now returned to Fulborough, and one only has to recall the midweek back to back to realize what a good chance Mubarak of Kuwait will have at his best. He won the King George VI Handicap over a mile and a half at Royal Ascot, beating the ante-post favourite, Band, who seems to have a lot on his plate for a three-year-old. A winner over a mile and three-quarters at Newmarket in the spring, Abouhan has been trained well and is a very good horse. In the whole world there can be few, if any, better fiddlers.

Without Woolmer, Kent may need Crowder to bowl today, as well as to bat at No. 5 and catch swallows. Ditley will play if passed fit this morning, if not, Jarvis will. There is a good blend to this Kent side. Hampshire, more typical of the modern set-up, would not have got where they are without substantial overseas assistance. But they, too, have an English captain with a traditional English background. Although winners of the championship in 1961 and 1973 and of the John Player League in 1975 and 1978, Hampshire have yet to play at Lord's in a one-day final. Unless they do so soon they will be getting a complex about it. If being at home gives Kent a slight edge, Hampshire meant it when they said after the draw had been made for the semi-finals that it suited them in every respect but one. They were hoping, as happened, to draw Kent as their opponents, but at Southampton.

Youth must rise like swallows to the occasion

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

The two more fancied sides in today's semi-finals of the NatWest Trophy, Middlesex and Kent, have their problems. Kent will be without Woolmer and possibly Ditley when they meet Hampshire at Canterbury and Middlesex, although Edmonds is expected to be fit to play for them, are bound to miss Butcher, a brilliant one-day cricketer, in their home match with Somerset.

Woolmer's absence with a back sprain leaves Kent's early batting largely in the hands of the young English talent. Aslett, Benson, Crowder and Taylor are all either 24 or 25. Benson has been making a lot of runs and Crowder is now such a good and spirited cricketer that one begins to wonder whether he might not one day take off and achieve great things. In the whole world there can be few, if any, better fiddlers.

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If Edmonds plays Middlesex will be left this morning only to decide who bats at No. 5. It will probably be Tomkins, though it could be Ellis, and Brearley is back in consideration. Brearley, I think, might rather not play, not simply because he is short of competitive cricket, but owing to an appointment at Cambridge later this week. He has a paper to read there to a gathering of mighty intellects, followed by questions to be answered. It is a little like having to lecture a World XI before facing them in the nets. Charles Fry, among cricketers, might have done it, and Alfred Lyttelton, but precious few. In a match of many fine cricketers it is still the most likely to decide things off his own bat. He has a marvellous record in one-day matches at Lord's and is right back in form after, for him, not much of a winter. Somerset will field the side that beat Lancashire at Old Trafford and Sussex at Hove. Middlesex have only Gating who can get anywhere near to matching Richards. Middlesex, on the other hand, have the better bowling, and in a team chosen from the two sides they would undoubtedly be the more strongly represented. Today's should be good, close matches given equal batting conditions for the opposing sides. Play begins at 10.30, an improvement on the 10.00 start which made last year's corresponding round something of a lottery.

Edmonds plays Middlesex



Cowdrey: prefers the unorthodox route

Entertainer following in father's footsteps

Chris Cowdrey is out to make a name for himself

By Michael Field

There have been times in his career when Christopher Cowdrey could have quite willingly changed his name. Like so many sons who follow fathers, he has been burdened with comparisons. "It has been annoying an all rather pointless," Cowdrey said. "There's no point in comparing chalk and cheese. My father was on a different plane to me technically... but his game was geared to the long innings; mine is based more on the one-day game."

Colin Cowdrey played in 114 Test Matches, more than any other cricketer, and is the third highest run scorer of all time: a difficult act to follow, as his eldest son has discovered ever since he first played for the Kent Second Eleven when aged 15, and a Tombridge schoolboy. "It was expected to play the same way, but how could I possibly emulate that brilliant technique?" he said. "I've often been criticised for my method, which some people see as unorthodox... although unkind words have been said. But in the modern game you have to play shots... you have to entertain and so attack is paramount in your mind. Spectators aren't keen to see the sort of long innings my father was so very good at."

No one can deny Chris Cowdrey's ability to play shots. His century at Chelmsford last month, which brought Kent to an unlikely victory over Essex in the second round of the NatWest Trophy, was vintage one-day entertainment. A fortnight later he top scored again as Kent crushed Warwickshire in the quarter-final at Canterbury. His impressive six off the fast bowler Willie Hoppe, which secured a win on the midweek tussle, was followed by an audacious, lunging cover drive which most mortals would not have reached. Both were shots beyond the imagination of his father, who was absolutely vital to Kent's debut manager, Brian Luckhurst, said. "What impressed me was his maturity and authority. He played himself in, took the quick singles and accelerated brilliantly. They were perfect examples of how a one day innings should be compiled."

Luckhurst is full of admiration for the way in which Cowdrey has overcome the setbacks in his career and risen to the challenge this year. After an indifferent season last year, followed by losing the captaincy battle to Chris Tavare, there were doubts whether he would play the county to seek his fortune elsewhere. But he bit his lip and stuck it out... a courageous decision which has reaped its rewards. He is enjoying his best season, for apart from his success in the one-day competitions he has already scored more runs in the county championship than he did in the whole of 1982. "I have lightened up my game and I'm playing straighter," he said. "But I'm still doing it my way. I was bitterly disappointed not to get the captaincy, wherever I've played I seem to have been captain. It's a part of the game I love."

"So I decided it was time to assert myself. When I was in Australia in the winter I set myself a stiff fitness routine, lost over a stone and started to work on all aspects of my game, including bowling and fielding to make myself a more complete cricketer. "It's no longer relevant to compare me with my father. People no longer ask me if he does it... or if he does that I'm taking no notice! I'm also now beginning to benefit from my name. I've been making hundreds and they've been given more prominence than if I were plain Joe Bloggs."

Cowdrey has proved himself good enough for his county, and his next aim is to play for England. In the meantime he is casting a wary glance over his shoulder at a World XI which he is sure he would be in. He is just joined the Kent staff and is making a stack of runs in the second eleven. The player's name is Graham Cowdrey, third son of Colin, who could be playing for the first time by the end of the season. "I shan't play for Kent," Chris Cowdrey said. "As long as he isn't taking my place."

Close's selection

The West Indians, Michael Holding, Colin King and Franklin Stephenson will play for Brian Close's XI against the New Zealanders in a three-day match at Scarborough starting on August 31.

Ebor day at York

Draw: No advantage

Television: (ITV) 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40 races

Total Double: 3.10, 4.15, Treble: 2.35, 3.40, 4.45

2.0 WYKEHAM HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,791; 5f) (7 runners)

1.01 102311 SHARPSHIP (B) (R Johnson) W Hodge 9-2 ... G Barber 4

2.03 MOORESTYLE CONVIVIAL STAKES (2-y-o: maidens: £5,345; 6f) (13)

3.10 TOTE-EBOR HANDICAP (£27,652; 1m 6f) (18)

3.40 GREAT VOLTIGEUR STAKES (Group I): 3-y-o: £24,136; 1m 4f) (5)

4.15 LONSDALE STAKES (£7,354; 2m) (13)

5.15 FALMOUTH HANDICAP (£4,214; 1m 10f) (19)

York selections

2.0 Sharpish, 2.45 Toccoe, 3.10 Mubarak Of Kuwait, 3.40 Teeno, 4.15 Prickle, 4.45 Zillos, 5.15 Riverside Arties.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Sharpish, 2.35 Toccoe, 3.10 Abduou, 3.40 Teeno, 4.15 Prickle, 4.45 Karadar, 5.15 Aysan.

Full results from York

2.0 WYKEHAM HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,791; 5f) (7 runners)

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4.15 LONSDALE STAKES (£7,354; 2m) (13)

5.15 FALMOUTH HANDICAP (£4,214; 1m 10f) (19)

4.15 LONGSHORE HANDICAP (£1,774; 7f) (8)

2.45 SIGMA PAINTS HURDLE (Div I) (novices: £508; 2m 1f) (8 runners)

4.45 SIGMA PAINTS HURDLE (Div II): £493; 2m 1f) (2)

3.15 CITY OF EXETER CHASE (handicap: £1,562; 2m 1f) (12)

3.45 SIR REGINALD LEEDS HURDLE (handicap: £1,107; 2m 1f) (5)

4.15 TOPSHAM HURDLE (selling: £510; 2m 1f) (8)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div I): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div II): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div III): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div IV): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div V): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div VI): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div VII): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

Devon & Exeter

2.45 SIGMA PAINTS HURDLE (Div I) (novices: £508; 2m 1f) (8 runners)

4.45 SIGMA PAINTS HURDLE (Div II): £493; 2m 1f) (2)

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3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div VII): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div VIII): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

Folkstone results

1.01 102311 SHARPSHIP (B) (R Johnson) W Hodge 9-2 ... G Barber 4

2.03 MOORESTYLE CONVIVIAL STAKES (2-y-o: maidens: £5,345; 6f) (13)

3.10 TOTE-EBOR HANDICAP (£27,652; 1m 6f) (18)

3.40 GREAT VOLTIGEUR STAKES (Group I): 3-y-o: £24,136; 1m 4f) (5)

4.15 LONSDALE STAKES (£7,354; 2m) (13)

5.15 FALMOUTH HANDICAP (£4,214; 1m 10f) (19)

Great Yarmouth

Draw: Advantage: none

2.15 BOTTON BROTHERS STAKES (ladies: £1,293; 1m 6f) (10 runners)

2.45 PLEASURE BEACH STAKES (2-y-o: selling: £704; 15f 25yds) (11)

3.15 FRANK STONE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,110; 6f) (8)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div I): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div II): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div III): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

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3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div V): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div VI): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div VII): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div VIII): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

3.45 HALL QUAY STAKES (Div IX): 2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,035; 7f) (12)

ATHLETICS: THE BATTLE CONTINUES AT THE EUROPEAN CUP FINAL

The newly crowned princes take golden ways to the Palace

By Pat Butcher

More than half the world championship gold medal winners are expected at Crystal Palace, this weekend...

distance, but just failed to qualify for Helsinki, even though he also won the AAA title...

Keith Connor will be party to another interesting confrontation in the triple jump...

Allan Wells should need no urging, especially in the 200 metres...

There is no possibility of Britain challenging the prospect of winners of the week-end events...

Finland did not reach either of the finals, so Miss Whitbread will not get the opportunity of a return match against Tina Lilak...

In Helsinki, as in Athens last year in the European championships, Cova came from behind on the last lap...

Daley Thompson, Britain's only other gold medal winner from Helsinki, declined the offer of the place in the long jump...



Connor: hope, step and jump

Calvin Smith and Ennmit King, who won silver and bronze medals behind him. Coghlan, Ireland's first gold medal winner in a major championships since Ron Delaney...

Kenyan seeks inquiry

Nairobi (Reuters) - Isiah Kiplagat, the secretary of the Kenyan Amateur Athletic Association, has called for an official investigation into the poor showing of Kenya at the world championships in Helsinki...

CYCLING

Tour man takes to world stage

By John Wilcockson

Two Glasgow cyclists, the professional Robert Miller and the amateur James McLaughlin...

Miller, the Tour de France stage winner, competes in the 70-kilometre professional road race...

Because the professionals are having to pay their own way, only three others have been nominated...

McLaughlin receives his first world championship place at the expense of the talented Liverpool amateur Joseph McLaughlin...

McLaughlin will defend her world title in the four-lap 60-kilometre women's road race...

The make-up of Britain's quartet in the 100-kilometre team time trial will be determined after a training session this evening...

EQUESTRIANISM

Onus falls on women

By Jenny MacArthur

Michael Tucker's General Bugle is out of the team for the European three day event championships...

This leaves an all female team to defend Britain's European title, and only one individual rider - Rachel Bayliss...

It is a bitter blow for Tucker, who flew out to Switzerland on Sunday after commenting for BBC television at the Midland Bank championships at Looe...

The only consolation for the Gloucestershire rider aged 28, is that General Bugle is only eight and should have many years ahead of him in top level competition...

RUGBY LEAGUE: THE MAN BEHIND KENT INVICTA

A 'hip' chairman out on a limb

When policemen start to look younger than you, it is time to start worrying...

What is more, he is a dyed-in-the-wool Southerner...

Smoking a real chairman-of-the-board cigar, but wearing a tee-shirt bearing the legend 'New York Mets'...

"I want to sell the sport to the local people. The match ball for our first game against Cardiff on Sunday will be brought to the pitch by parachute...

Now Belfast team may join League

By Keith Macklin

An attempt by a consortium of businessmen to launch a rugby team in Belfast was announced yesterday...

Mr O'Leary was enthusiastic not only to report that other areas in Britain were considering the formation of teams...

YACHTING

Storming to victory

By John Nicholls

For the second windy day in succession, Ian Russell and Jeremy Hartley were convincing winners at the national 12 class championship...

The westerly breeze was probably not as consistently strong as on the previous day but with the course laid closer to the shore...

Today's race is for the Sir William Burton Trophy, one of the oldest in the dinghy racing calendar...

MOTOR RACING

Hotels back final race

Johnannesburg, (Reuters) - A hotel chain has announced sponsorship of the South African Grand Prix...

The £270,000 sponsorship will be provided by the Blackburn based brewery, Matthew Brown...

Referees have been instructed to tidy up the play the ball rule and to make sure that the ball is brought cleanly and properly into play...

FOOTBALL: Leeds United asked the Football Association to help them collect £35,000 still owed for Alex Sabella...

YACHTING

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RESULTS: 1. New Point, P King and R Turner (Wentley 375 2. Street Ales, P Bine and R Taylor (Wentley 382 3. No 10, C Hedges and M Channing (Plymouth 383)...

La crème de la crème also on page 20

Secretary Executive Recruitment KNIGHTSBRIDGE to £7,000. Come and work with a busy executive recruitment company...

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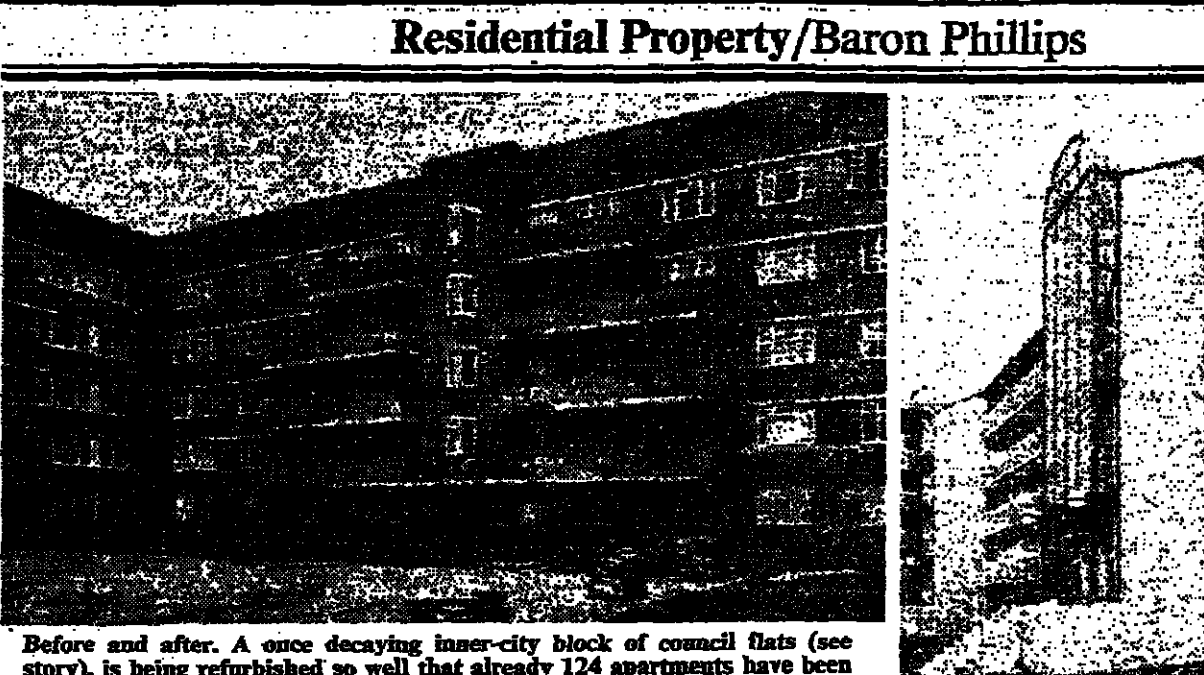
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Before and after. A once decaying inner-city block of council flats (see story), is being refurbished so well that already 124 apartments have been sold at attractive prices.

Building to beat the inner-city decay

Less than a mile from Liverpool's main shopping areas is a fine example of what can be done with Britain's decaying inner-city areas. In the midst of an area of near-dereliction, young couples and single professionals are buying homes of their own...

Country Properties

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8 acres
South Wiltshire
Bourne Valley, A30 (M3 London) 3 miles. Salisbury 4 miles.
A 4 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen, breakfast room, oil central heating, garage, outbuildings...

King & Chasemore
WEST SUSSEX, NEL PETWORTH. An important Small Estate in a peaceful country setting near the Downs...

Brighton luxury flat facing Marina
Long lease. 2 double bedrooms. Caretaker, etc. etc. Price £58,000 plus furniture.

SAVILLS
Oxfordshire Cotswolds, or Cheshire
CHANNINGSTONE ROAD, TRENKLEIGH, CHESHIRE
Bordered a pretty village in beautiful countryside...

CORNWALL
St. Ives. Exclusive new development of 12 and 14 bedroom apartments overlooking St. Ives Bay...

TRURO/FALMOUTH
Historic Listed Grade II country residence to suit a large family.
£165,000

RODMAN CLOUGH HOBSON
Bridgwater W. Yorks
Commuter distance Leeds / Manchester. 17th/18th Century Farmhouse...

Stratton & Holborow
Chartered Surveyors
In the instructions of the Bishop of Truro, Victoria, Cornwall
A period 3 bedroomed cottage...

W.I.I
Residential 2 houses of newly built development which has already attracted professional interest...

SMITH-WOOLLEY
CHARTERED SURVEYORS
In Cranston, Elm 4 houses (2 semi detached with individual front gardens)...

OXON/WARWICK BORDERS
Buckley House 5 acres, semi detached farmhouse with 100 year old stone walls...

SIBIRY-ON-THAMES
Riverside village on Surrey banks. Well maintained detached house in tree-lined avenue...

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BUCKS / OXON BORDER
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£175,000

KENT
Overlooking Coopers Creek
Detached 3 bed semi det cottage with 100 year old stone walls...

OXFORD
Private River Frontage
Queen Anne property in quiet country village 5 bedrooms 2 bathrooms...

Overseas Property

Wallis - Switzerland
GRANS-MONTANA
For sale 2 bedroom flat, brand new, 65 sq m, balcony 30 sq m...

ZURICH
Approx. 200 metres from the City, at splendid pre-Alpine location
17-room penthouse, 177sq. metres, large terrace, 2 garage parking lots...

NEARLY NEW WIMPEY
1 bedroom house, Freshford, Greenford area.
£31,000

1/2 PRICE
FREEHOLD STUDIO APARTMENTS AT ROSAS, COSTA BRAVA
2 connecting studio apts. reduced from £18,707 to £8,544

MAJORCA
A unique development of 100 luxury flats with swimming pool, tennis court, private beach, etc.

LEICESTER
Fully furnished and ready to move in
1 bed, 1 bath, 1 kitchen, 1 living room, 1 dining room, 1 study...

SWITZERLAND
The Swiss advantage. Complete range of flats & apartments for sale in Switzerland...

MAJORCA
Luxury flat in block of 9, private development. Own swimming pool 10 mins by car from Cala de Formentor...

WYKE VALLEY
Between Ross & Monmouth
In world class residential area, 1/2 mile from Ross, 1/2 mile from Monmouth...

Strutt & Parker
ROSS-SHIRE THE ALLADALE AND DEANICH ESTATES
An Outstanding and Renowned Deer Forest
Aldale Lodge, An attractive and modern lodge in a beautiful location...

North Yorkshire, close Harrogate
Goldborough Village near Knaresborough. Leeds 20 mins, and A1 10 mins.
Detached 4 bedroom house with 2 bathrooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms...

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY
Beautifully restored 18th century house
16 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 reception rooms, 10 reception rooms...

BIDWELLS
EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE
Good Access to M11
Grade II Listed. House of great character...

ERIDGE
Near Tunbridge Wells, Eridge
Excellent opportunity, country house with 100 year old stone walls...

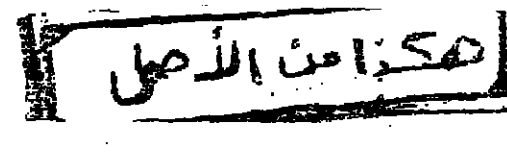
WILTSHIRE
Charming restored, very private, detached cottage
2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 reception rooms...

CUMBRIA
Two adjoining cottages in a quiet village
2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 reception rooms...

WILTSHIRE
Two adjoining cottages in a quiet village
2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 reception rooms...

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear



BBC 1
6.00 Corfax AM. News headlines, traffic, weather and sports news. Available to viewers with television sets without the television facility.

TV-am
6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and Anne Diamond. News with Gavin Scott at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 8.55; sports news at 6.45 and 7.45; Chris Tennant in Brighton with guest Patricia Hodge from 8.55; the studio guest, from 7.00, is Richard Stilgoss; Bowie video - Ashes to Ashes - at 7.55; Nicola Pezet's star forecast at 8.05; a preview of the day's television at 8.35; exercises with Mad Lizzie at 8.50; Roland Rat in Oxford from 9.00.

TV/LONDON
9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Soaps Street in which the Muppets and their human friends make learning sense simple 10.25 Science International. A glimpse of the world of scientific research 10.35 Sport Billy in Bad Weather. The three species of deer found in Ireland - the red, the fallow and, introduced from Japan, the Sika 11.50 Cartoon Times. Broadcast Sports.

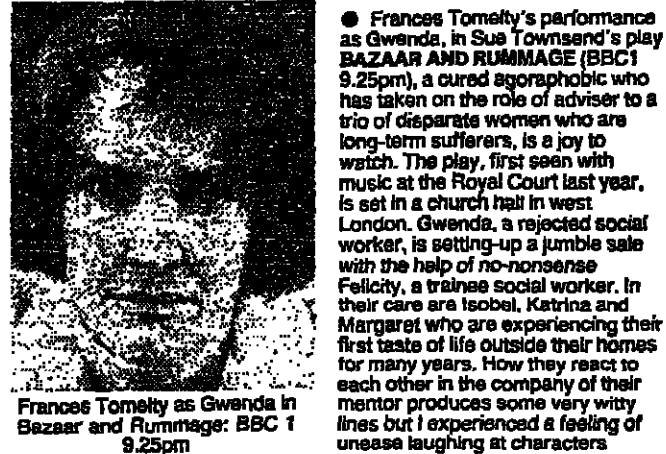
BBC 2
6.05 Open University. The Art of Physics 6.30 Psychology: Production Systems. 6.55 Geology: From Swamps to Coal 7.20 The Art of Charlotte Brontë 7.45 Concert. Closes down at 8.10.

Channel 4
5.30 Start Here. Konrad the robot and his eager band of young scientist followers this week discover the wonders of machinery (1).

Radio 4
6.00 News Briefing. 6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day, 6.55, 7.58 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News, 7.25, 8.25 Sport, 8.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary, 7.45, 7.55 Thought for the Day.

Radio 3
6.55 Weather 7.00 News. 7.05 Your Midweek Choice. Part one. Johann Strauss (Czech Polka), Schubert (Nocturne in E flat), Liszt (Hungarian Rhapsody No. 9), Chopin (Nocturne in G minor), Liszt (Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2).

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Frances Tomelty as Gwendolyn in Bazaar and Rummage. BBC 1 9.25pm

Frances Tomelty's performance as Gwendolyn in Sue Tompsett's play BAZAAR AND RUMMAGE (BBC 1 9.25pm), a cured agoraphobic who has taken on the role of adviser to a trio of disparate women who are long-term sufferers, is a joy to watch. The play, first seen with music at the Royal Court last year, is set in a church hall in west London. Gwendolyn, a rejected social worker, is setting up a jumble sale with the help of non-sensical Felicity, a trained social worker. In their own way, Katharine and Margaret who are experiencing their first taste of life outside their homes for many years. How they react to each other in the company of their mentor provides some very witty lines but experienced a feeling of unease laughing at characters

Channel 4 News
Headlines at 7.30, business news at 7.35 followed by Sunday's News at 7.45. The programme includes a report on the Conservative MP Peter Grieve, a report on the Conservative MP Peter Grieve, a report on the Conservative MP Peter Grieve.

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CHOICE
suffering from what must be a very difficult problem. The Bronx, it would seem, has been awash with documentary film makers, what with After the Fires on TV last night followed tonight by EVERYMAN'S MIRACLE OF INTERVALE AVENUE (BBC 1 10.55pm). Fortunately they focus on different aspects of the area and hardly overlap in content. 'Intervals' is about a small and beleaguered Jewish community who boast a host of funny characters in their congregation. From Jack the baker who has unorthodoxly taken over the mantle of rabbi and Dave Landin, a tubercular signwriter, to Mrs Miroff, the dressmaker who is looked upon as a mother by a

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TONIGHT'S PROM
7.30 Britten: Sinfonietta. Mozart: Clarinet Concerto in A major, K 622. 8.40 Colin Matthews: Night Music. Beethoven: Symphony No 1 in C major. Anthony Pay (Chorus). City of London Sinfonia, conducted by Richard Hickox. Radio 3. Stereo.

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ENTERTAINMENTS
OPERAS & BALLETS
CONCERTS
Legal Appointments are featured every TUESDAY 01-278 9161/5

THEATRES
TABLE THEATRE
MUSIC
DANCE
CINEMA

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS
CENTRAL
ULSTER
TSW
TYNE TEES
HTV WALES
CHANNEL 4

GRAMPIAN
YORKSHIRE
ANGLIA
BORDER
SCOTTISH
GRANADA

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN
1. Stereo. 2. Black and white. 3. Repeat.

ART GALLERIES
ANTHONY JOFFA
BRITISH LIBRARY
FISHER FINE ARTS
LITTLE LITTS
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY
ROYAL ACADEMY

1903-1983: Terrifying thoroughfares abhorred by all travellers

The coterminous of London's east end are less of a traffic hazard today than they were in 1903, and the unhappy union between wooden pavements and macadam strips near Brent Bridge has been long dissolved together with the bridge itself (Michael Horsnell writes).

But London's road network is just as inefficient today as it was 80 years ago, with frustrations of a difficult kind reducing the speed of traffic to little faster than that of a marathon runner.

A special test by the Royal Automobile Club along some of the capital's main roads has shown that motorists face as many difficulties now as the RAC reported their predecessors did in 1903.

In that year club officials escorted members of the Royal Commission on London Traffic in horseless carriages on a 32-mile route across London. The jaunt was followed by a report in the club's journal of inadequate roads, congestion and long delays.

The report said that an offer to place motor cars at the disposal of the commissioners, in the belief that some personal knowledge of the main roads of London would probably convey to the commissioners a keener appreciation of the great need for wider and better roads.

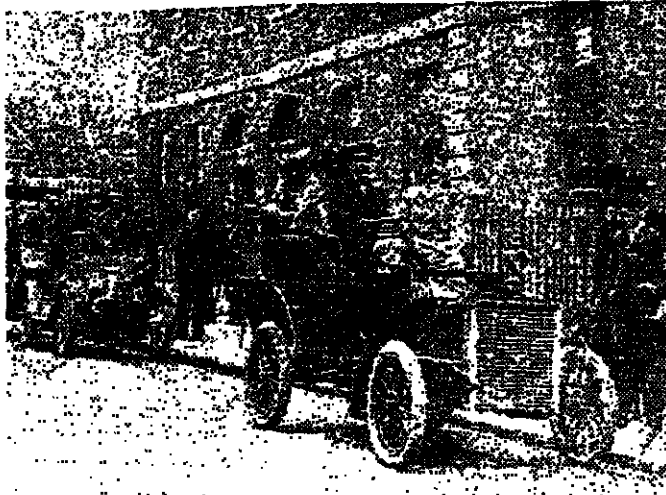
The report added: "It was pointed out that at the present moment no facilities exist for the building of trunk roads to relieve the traffic on the few existing main roads."

The Times has ventured along the route the commissioners took and, like the RAC which tried it a few days ago, clocked up an average speed of under 14 mph.

The journey started at the Bank in the City, taking in Ealing, Willesden, Paddington, Mayfair, Bloomsbury, King's Cross, Walthamstow, and Stratford.

In Brentford, cyclists were frequently the speediest travellers. At Ealing Common traffic was compressed like thick liquid passing through a sclerotic artery. Immobile for 10 minutes at the Edgware Road junction with Harrow Road, one jam led to another until the journey was completed in just under two and a half hours.

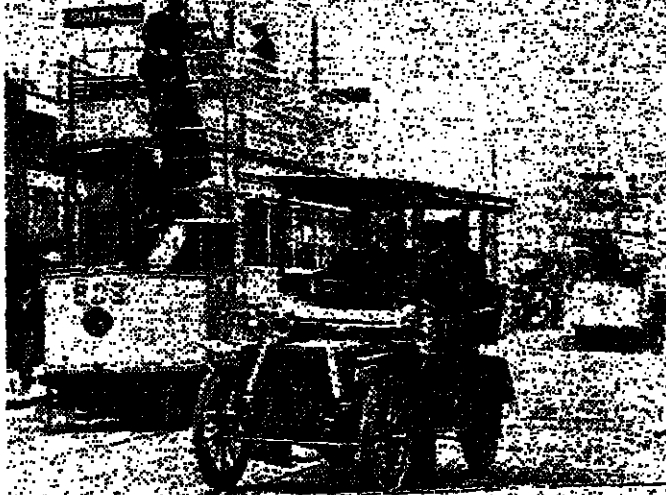
Mr Tony Lee, the RAC's director of public affairs, commented: "It is about time that thousands of motorists and drivers of freight transport were relieved of the deplorable difficulties they face." London's road network demanded a comprehensive reappraisal, he added. Just as it did in 1903.



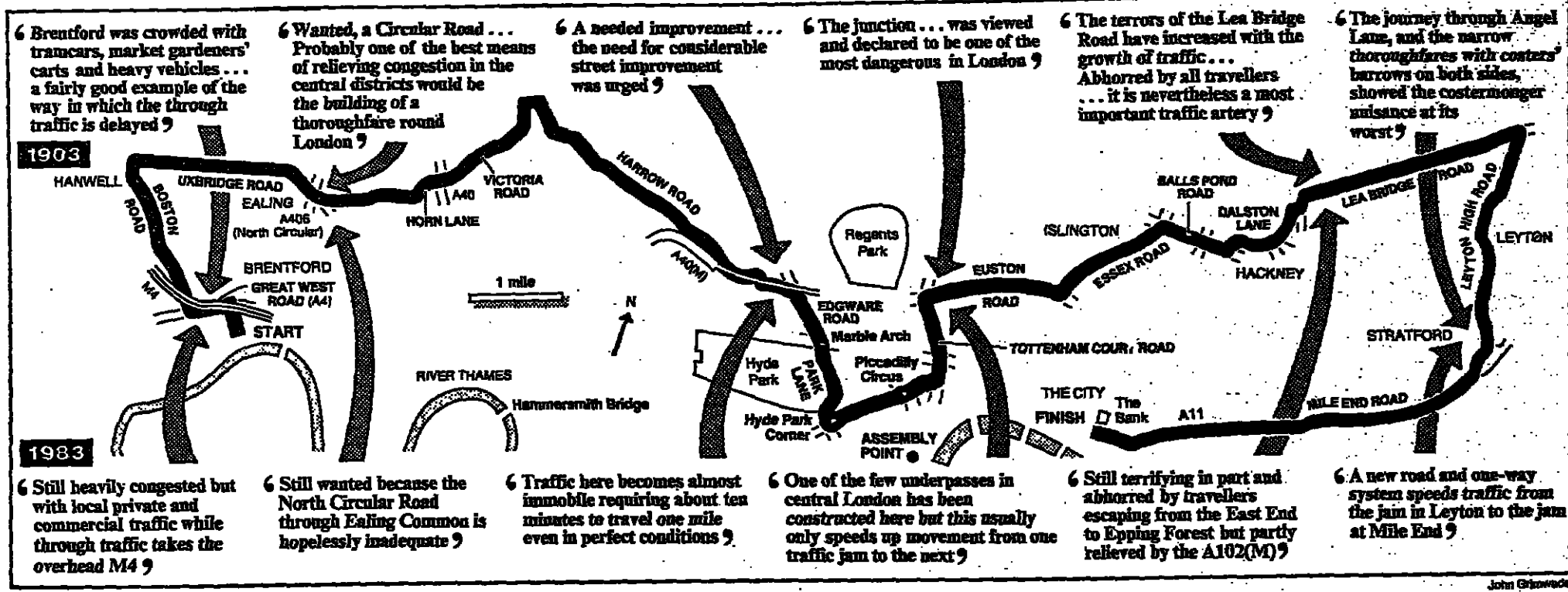
1903: The caravan assembles in Great George Street.



Near Hammersmith Bridge - pause for consultation.



"Congestion" near the old Uxbridge Road station.



John Skirrow



1983, Great George Street today: Hustle and bustle.



Hammersmith Bridge: More trees, no horses.



Uxbridge Road where it crosses the North Circular.

US apology to France for aiding Barbie

Continued from page 1

Americans were deeply concerned Barbie would return to the British if they stopped using him. "The revelation of Barbie's connection to CIC as an informant would have been a serious blow to CIC's prestige in the eyes of the British," according to a secret CIC memorandum dated early 1948.

Barbie, now aged 69, is in a French prison awaiting trial. While head of the Gestapo in Lyons from 1942 to 1944 he is alleged to have ordered the murder of 4,000 French Jews and to have deported 7,500 others to Nazi concentration camps. He is also said to have been responsible for the death of Jean Moulin, a French resistance hero.

Despite the conclusion that "responsible officials of the Army interfered with the lawful and proper administration of justice," the report says there are no grounds under American law for criminal action to be taken against anyone involved.

Under the US statute of limitations an indictment must be brought within five years after commission of an offence. It is 33 years since Barbie escaped to Bolivia and 11 years since France managed to obtain positive information of his presence there.

The report also defends the original recruitment of Barbie by the Americans on the grounds that his alleged involvement in war crimes did not become widely known until two years after he started working for them.

"It is important to realize that Klaus Barbie is far more notorious today than he ever was, except in Lyons, during or immediately after the war," the report states. The Americans decided to recruit him because of his counter-intelligence expertise and his strong anti-communist sentiments.

The report notes that both the British and French intelligence services also made use of former Nazis as informants.

"It must also be said that no other nation in occupied Germany - France, Great Britain or the Soviet Union - is in any position to criticize the decision to use Klaus Barbie now that the US Government has revealed the facts behind that use," the report concludes.

The recommendation to apologize to France met with stiff resistance from some State Department officials, which was responsible for a delay of several days in the report's publication.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Exhibitions
Lincolnshire Rose Society first members table show for beginners and small growers, Oddfellows Hall, Portland Street, Lincoln, 7.30.
Acton Scott Working Farm Museum (file on an old Shropshire farm), Westlock Lodge, Acton Scott, near Church Street, Shropshire, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 10 to 6, Bank holidays 10 to 6; (until Oct 31).
Face Setters III; painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, ceramics and textiles selected for The City Museum and Art Gallery, Priestgate, Peterborough; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun and Mon; (until Sept 3).
Postcard views; contemporary postcards and related works, Chapter Gallery, Market Road, Canon, Cardiff; Mon to Fri, 12 to 10, Sat 12 to 4 and 6 and 9, Sun 12 to 6; (until Oct 1).
Through Children's Eyes, an Arts Council touring exhibition, Ferens Art Gallery, Queen Victoria Square, Hull; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 4.30 (until Sept 11).

New books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:
The Golden Dice of Westminster, by Leslie Field (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95)
The Best of Benito, by Michael Benito (Granada, £8.95)
Conversations in Medicine: Convergence and divergence in tradition, edited by G. R. Dunstan and Mary J. Sellar (Oxford, £8.50)
Memories, by Robert Moss and Armand de Sorchgraves (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £7.50)
Price of Crickets, by Alan Rose (Collins, £10.95)
Shadows of our Drawings: a celebration of early Australia, by Anne Fairbairn (Angus & Robertson, £7.95)
The Times Guide to the House of Commons, June 1983 (Times Books, £15)
The Power of Rome in the Twentieth Century: The Vatican in the Age of Liberal Democracies, by Anthony Rhodes (Sidgwick & Jackson, £10.95)
The Times Guide to the House of Commons, June 1983 (Times Books, £15)
Tom Stoppard, by Thomas R. Whitaker (Macmillan, £11; paperback £8.95)

Weather

A trough of low pressure over N England will move slowly northwards.
6 am to midnight
London, SE, central S England, Midlands: Dry, sunny periods with occasional light or moderate rain; max temp 25C (79F).
E. central N, NE England: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, becoming drier; lighter showers from south; wind southerly light to moderate; max temp 20 to 22C (68 to 72F).
Channel Islands, SW England, Wales: Heavy rain, sunny periods, showers, showers, perhaps sturdy, developing later; hill and coastal fog patches; wind S or SW moderate; max temp 24C (76F); but cooler on some coasts.
NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, SW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Cloudy outbreaks of rain heavy in places, becoming brighter, some showers later; fog patches on coasts and hills; wind southerly light or moderate; max temp 17 to 20C (63 to 68F).
Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, central Highlands, Argyll: Rain soon clearing, bright at first, becoming cloudy, outbreaks of rain from south, wind SE moderate; max temp 16 to 18C (61 to 64F).
Wales: Heavy rain, sunny periods, showers, showers, perhaps sturdy, developing later; hill and coastal fog patches; wind S or SW moderate; max temp 24C (76F); but cooler on some coasts.
SEA PASSENGERS: S North Sea, East Angles, SE England: Wind SW to S, light to moderate, light to heavy showers, occasional rain; visibility moderate to good on sea.
Sun rises: 5.20pm
Sun sets: 8.00pm
Full Moon August 23.

The papers

There is only one comment to be made on the strong tip that Mr Michael Meacher will be the next Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, the Daily Mirror says. "It would be a disaster. Mr Meacher is not up to the job," the paper claims. "He is standing only because Mr Tony Benn, having lost his seat earlier, it says his only chance as a disciple of Mr Benn's and his only function would be to keep the seat warm." The Mirror cannot foresee substitute for politics in a sophisticated society, especially when times are tough, the New York Times said. It's an old idea for which the Chilean Regime cannot be held responsible and yet, as the bloody disorders there demonstrate, it's a lesson the Chilean Government still doesn't understand.

Roads

London and South East: A23: Delays between Poleway and Warringfold, Sussex. Road narrowing on Chelsea Embankment between Chelsea Bridge and Battersea Bridge. A281: Temporary signals at Bucks Green, west of Horsham, Sussex.
Midlands and East Angles: M1: Lane closures at junction 19 (M6) north and south-bound traffic affected. Lane closures on M54: Telford by-pass, diversion at junction 5. Lane closures at M6: junctions 5 to 6 (Birmingham north-east to Birmingham central).
Wales and West: M6: Traffic sharing northbound carriageway between junctions 8 (M50 junction) and 9 (A58church). A5: Temporary traffic lights working 24 hours a day at Llanfair Gwynedd, M4: At junction 32 (Cardiff). Lane closures at junction 32 (Cardiff).

Lighting-up time

London 8.00 pm to 5.30 am
Edinburgh 9.15 pm to 5.15 pm
Manchester 8.04 pm to 5.28 am
Preston 8.08 pm to 5.45 am

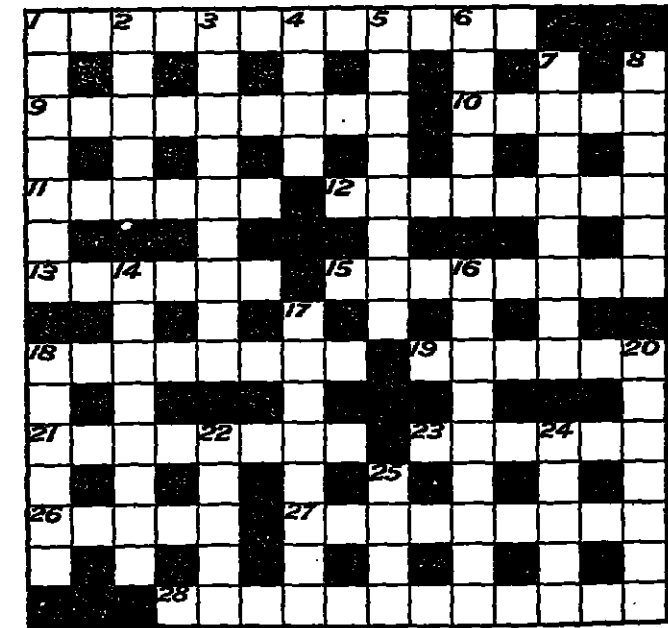
High tides

Location	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	10.58	11.32	5.48	6.11
Aberdeen	9.09	9.4	5.49	6.1
Amble	2.00	2.5	2.35	3.0
Arundel	6.34	6.1	7.3	8.0
Cardiff	1.44	2.0	2.35	3.0
Cardigan	1.23	1.8	2.1	2.7
Dunrobin	1.23	1.8	2.1	2.7
Edinburgh	1.23	1.8	2.1	2.7
Falmouth	12.01	12.4	12.41	12.8
Glasgow	7.49	8.3	8.4	9.2
Hull	7.49	8.3	8.4	9.2
Leith	6.01	6.5	6.6	7.4
Liverpool	1.23	1.8	2.1	2.7
Lyncey	10.26	10.7	10.2	10.7
London	10.58	11.32	5.48	6.11
Lynn	5.12	5.0	5.24	5.2
Malpas	7.22	8.0	7.58	8.3
Marazion	6.24	6.5	6.28	6.5
Mersey	1.23	1.8	2.1	2.7
Portsmouth	1.23	1.8	2.1	2.7
Reading	1.23	1.8	2.1	2.7
Shrewsbury	6.25	6.8	7.05	7.6
Southampton	6.25	6.8	7.05	7.6
St Austrey	1.23	1.8	2.1	2.7
Tyne	11.24	11.5	11.29	11.8
Wexham-on-Thames	7.01	7.5	7.29	7.8

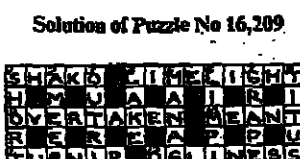
Around Britain

Area	Sun Rain	Mon	Tue	Wed
St Andrews	7.2	20	26	27
Stirling	1.2	18	21	21
Southampton	7.2	20	26	27
Cardiff	0.8	26	27	27
Cardigan	0.8	26	27	27
Edinburgh	10.4	22	27	27
Hull	10.4	22	27	27
London	7.4	21	27	27
Manchester	10.4	22	27	27
Reading	7.4	21	27	27
Sheffield	10.4	22	27	27
Southampton	7.4	21	27	27
Wolverhampton	10.4	22	27	27
Wrexham	7.4	21	27	27
York	7.4	21	27	27

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,210



- 1 PM a skilled occupation? It can be so described (7-5).
- 2 Pacific middle name for this writer (9).
- 3 Exit with a bang (2,3).
- 4 Undercover, this information (6).
- 5 Spot of Chinese take-away? (8).
- 6 Zigzag vehicle returning through tunnel (6).
- 7 As writer of farce, 'e' appears to get across (8).
- 8 Earliest form of conveyance (5-3).
- 9 Sometime Rome's establishment needed more than this (3,1).
- 10 Vessel might cause trouble to Pleas (6).
- 11 Prepared search for 11 evidence of water (3,3).
- 12 Head of family tree? (5).
- 13 State makes provision (9).
- 14 Becky placed, we hear, like Keat's Cortez (5-7).
- 15 River rises outside grand old Scottish town (5).
- 16 Vexed by what tedious fellow did about article (8).
- 17 Duty to serve champagne thus chilled? (16).
- 18 Wine for one who rejected Cordelia (8).
- 19 Mutually friendly character's job for 1 ac (9).
- 20 Affair right for teller of tales (8).
- 21 Case of the letters Mary republished (6).
- 22 Looked for time to overcome Kelly (7).
- 23 Mother is heart-broken (5).
- 24 Quick as one who adored Esther Johnson (5).
- 25 Aims to take half a day making friends (4).



Solution of Puzzle No 16,209
S U A A I E I S H
O V E R T A K E M E A N T
R E N I P G I L I N E S
L I N E S
J A N N I S M I L I T A R I
O A G E
I M P L I C I T L Y
T R E A T M E N T T W I S H

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.76	1.68
British Scl.	20.35	21.50
Canada \$	1.90	1.825
Denmark Kr	15.03	14.33
Finland Mk	8.88	8.49
France F	4.17	4.14
Germany DM	147.00	135.00
Hongkong \$	11.48	10.83
Irish Lm	1.32	1.26
Italy Lira	2470.00	2350.00
Japan Yen	367.00	367.00
Netherlands Gld	4.66	4.44
Norway Kr	11.61	11.44
Portugal Esc	188.50	178.50
South Africa Rd	1.95	1.84
Spain Pta	238.50	219.50
Sweden Kr	12.28	11.68
Switzerland Fr	3.28	3.18
USA \$	1.54	1.49
Yugoslavia Dnr	161.00	149.00

Anniversaries

Oliver St John Gogarty, writer, was born in Dublin, 1878. Matthew Boulton, engineer, died in Birmingham, 1809. The building of the Berlin Wall began, 1961.

Sour grapes

Young Britons thinking of taking a late September holiday grape picking in France have been warned by the French Embassy against agencies which give no guarantee about jobs and rarely make provision for the return journey. Also, social security contributions and the cost of food and lodging are deducted from wages.

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to: Cathy James, ITIS, The Times, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 pm to 8 pm, 25C (77F); min 6 pm to 8 pm, 16C (61F). Humidity: 6 pm, 58 per cent. Rain: 3.7 in. Sun: 24 to 5 pm, 8 hrs. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,011.5 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.92 in.

Highest and lowest

City	Temp	Wind
London	25C	12 mph
Edinburgh	16C	11 mph
Manchester	18C	11 mph
Cardiff	17C	11 mph
Glasgow	17C	11 mph
Belfast	17C	11 mph
Sheffield	17C	11 mph
Wolverhampton	17C	11 mph
Wrexham	17C	11 mph
York	17C	11 mph